



Final Frontier

The Space Shuttle Endeavour sits before it is moved along city streets, Friday, Oct.12, 2012, in Los Angeles. Endeavour's 12-mile road trip kicked off shortly before midnight Thursday as it moved from its Los Angeles International Airport hangar en route to the California Science Center, its ultimate destination, said Benjamin Scheier of the center.

(AP Photo/Mark J. Terrill)

Space shuttle makes final journey to LA museum

ALICIA CHANG
AP Science Writer

LOS ANGELES (AP) — At its prime, the space shuttle Endeavour circled the globe at 17,500 mph (28,160 million kph), faster than a speeding bullet. In retirement, it's crawling along the streets of Los Angeles at a sluggish 2 mph (3 kph), a pace that rush-hour

commuters can sympathize with. Endeavour's two-day, 12-mile (19 kilometer) road trip to the California Science Center where it will be put on display kicked off around midnight Friday. Rolled on a 160-wheeled carrier, it left from a hangar at the Los Angeles International Airport, passing

diamond-shaped "Shuttle Xing" signs, and reached city streets about two hours later. Hundreds of spectators waiting in the predawn darkness snapped photos and gaped as the 170,000-pound (77,111-kilogram) Endeavour inched by with its tail towering over streetlights and its

wings spanning the roadway. Some had pajama-clad children in tow. The shuttle made stop-and-go progress, with some halts to check its balance and to prune trees in its path as it rolled past strip malls and storefronts. In a massive feat of parallel parking, the shuttle was backed into a shopping

center parking lot around 5:30 a.m. — later than expected. Janet Dion, a family therapist, was in awe to see the shuttle, its sides weathered by millions of miles in space and two dozen re-entries.

Continued on Page 3

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Decade after attack, tears for dead, hope for Bali

FIRDIA LISNAWATI
Associated Press

BALI, Indonesia (AP) — A decade after bombs ripped through two Bali nightclubs, Friday was filled with reminders of what was lost in this tropical paradise, and what was not. Tears fell as victims' names were read at a memorial, but not far away, surfers paddled for world-class waves and vacationing shoppers lined busy sidewalks haggling for souvenirs.

Suicide bombers killed 202 people, mostly foreign tourists, when one blew himself up inside and another set off a car bomb at the popular Sari Club and Paddy's Pub in Kuta that sultry Saturday night in 2002. But radicalism did not take over this moderate Muslim nation, and the visitors terrorists once scared away from the resort island have come flooding back. Hotel rooms were hard to come by Friday, even as security alerts were raised to the highest level following a potential unspecific threat.

"There is peace in this island, and the knowledge that millions still come here for the same reasons you and your loved ones did," Australian Prime Minister Julia Gillard told victims' loved ones at a memorial service. "And perhaps there is a grim reassurance in knowing that the terrorists did not achieve what they set out to do. They did

not undermine Indonesian democracy, which has only grown stronger across the passage of a decade." Australia suffered more deaths in the attacks than

died immediately and Simone became the last victim after 58 days in a Perth burn unit. "When I hear of the 88 Australians that died, I always shed a tear

ies and family members of those killed gathered at Parliament House to mourn. The attack, carried out by suicide bombers from the al-Qaida-linked group Je-

here," said Wayan Gota, a handicraft trader in Bali. "The attack not only killed hundreds of people, but also destroyed every sector of our lives and led to prolonged economic difficulties. ... It took several years for us to recover from the paralysis."

Other Balinese suffer still more intensely from the attacks, which killed 38 Indonesians and injured many more.

Tumini, who like many Indonesians uses only one name, was a bartender getting ready to serve her first customer that night at Paddy's Pub. She was thrown outside the bar and knocked unconscious. The only thing she remembers is waking up in the hospital with burns covering her face and body.

Today, the mother of three still struggles to understand why she survived when so many others died. She was forced to find lower-paying work and cannot afford the medical care she needs.

"I feel my life is still miserable. I am not 100 percent normal," she said. "I often think and ask why God still allows me to live if I have to endure this pain."

Most of Indonesia's 210 million Muslims practice a moderate style of Islam that condemns violence, and the government has worked to root out militants, arresting more than 700 of them since the bombings and killing dozens more. □



People light candles at a beach during a memorial service to mark the 10th anniversary of the terrorists attacks, in Kuta, Bali, Indonesia, Friday, Oct. 12, 2012. A decade after twin bombs killed scores of tourists partying at two beachfront nightclubs on Indonesia's resort island of Bali, survivors and victims' families on Friday braved a fresh terrorism threat to remember those lost to the tragedy. (AP Photo/Firdia Lisnawati)

any other country, with 88 of its citizens dead. Bali, with its lively nightlife and warm pristine waters, has long been a favorite getaway for Australians, and Gillard herself had returned home from a family holiday a day before the Oct. 12, 2002, attacks.

The Australian government paid for more than 600 survivors and victims' family members to attend the ceremony. Some gathered for the memorial in shorts and T-shirts, fanning themselves in the blazing morning heat.

Danny Hanley, one of the speakers, lost two daughters in bombings: Renee

that my beautiful daughter, Simone, was number 88," he said. Many attending the memorial in Jimbaran walked past photos of the victims, posted on large black boards; some stopped to touch the faces of those they knew.

Others sat in white chairs with their heads bowed as they listened to the speeches encouraging remembrance and healing. Meanwhile, others laid flowers and paused to hug at the bombing site in Kuta known as "ground zero." Remembrances were also held across Australia to mark the anniversary. In the capital, Canberra, dignitar-

maah Islamiyah, started a wave of violence in the world's most populous Muslim nation, hitting an embassy, hotels and restaurants. Three years later, another bomb attack killed 20 people. Many visitors later shied away from the popular Hindu-dominated island, which survives on tourist dollars. Hotel occupancy plummeted 80 percent a year after the attacks, and foreign tourist arrivals fell by 70 percent. It was hit so hard the Indonesian government encouraged locals to visit Bali instead of traveling abroad. The 2002 attacks were "like a tsunami disaster for us

Space shuttle makes final journey to LA museum

Continued from front

"It's exciting to see the tiles up close, especially the texture of the tiles," she said. "It's amazing. You can almost feel the fabric of it, like a skin. Like our skin." Endeavour will remain at the parking lot for a nine-hour layover as crews worked to widen the carrier so that it could straddle the median during the next part of the trip. It was expected to move again in early afternoon then stop for several more hours to transfer to a special dolly for the cross over the busy Interstate 405 at night. Ushering a shuttle through an urban core is a logistical challenge that took almost a year to plan. Guarded by a security detail reminiscent of a presidential visit, police enforced rolling street and sidewalk closures as early as Thursday night in some locations and discouraged spectators from swarming

side streets. The behemoth transport has caused headaches for shopkeepers along the route who counted on cheering crowds jamming the curbs to boost business.

sold shuttle-shaped pastries emblazoned with the NASA logo and even hung a shuttle replica inside the giant doughnut hole sign visible from the busy Interstate 405.



Spectators gather to watch the space shuttle Endeavour in Los Angeles, Friday, Oct. 12, 2012. Endeavour's 12-mile road trip kicked off shortly before midnight Thursday as it moved from its Los Angeles International Airport hangar en route to the California Science Center, its ultimate destination, said Benjamin Scheier of the center.

(AP Photo/Mark J. Terrill)

In the days leading up to Endeavour's move, the owners of Randy's Donuts

Co-owner Larry Weintraub planned to watch the shuttle creep by the roadside

sign, which has been featured in several movies. But the store, which serves up sweets 24-7, will be closed Friday night.

"I'm still excited, but I'm disappointed that people aren't going to be able to stand in the streets and shout 'Yay,'" he said.

Saturday is typically the busiest day for James Fugate, who co-owns Eso Won Books in South Los Angeles. But with Endeavour expected to shuffle through, Fugate braced for a ho-hum day in sales.

"We don't close because we're slow. That's when you pull out a book to read," he said.

The baby of the shuttle fleet, Endeavour replaced Challenger, which exploded during liftoff in 1986, killing seven astronauts. It thundered off the launch pad 25 times, orbited Earth nearly 4,700 times and racked up 123 million miles (200 million kilometers).

Last month, it wowed throngs with a dizzying aerial loop, soaring over the state Capitol, Golden Gate Bridge, Hollywood Sign and other California landmarks while strapped to the back of a modified 747 before finally landing at LAX.

The last leg of Endeavour's retirement journey skips the tourist attractions and instead, winds through blue-collar communities in southern Los Angeles County. While viewing will be severely curtailed due to sidewalk shutdowns, crowds are still expected. Moving the Endeavour required a specialized carrier typically used to haul oil rigs, bridges and heavy equipment. The wheels can spin in any direction, allowing the shuttle to zig-zag past obstacles. An operator walks alongside, controlling the movements via joystick. Several spotters along the wings are on the lookout for hazards. □

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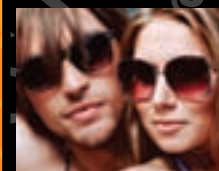
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CASINO AND SHOPS

Romney, Ryan see rise in enthusiasm on campaign trail

STEVE PEOPLES

Associated Press

SIDNEY, Ohio (AP) — The crowds tell the story. As Election Day nears, Mitt Romney is drawing large and excited throngs. Look to dusty Iowa cornfields, rain-soaked Virginia parks, the muddy fields of the Shelby County Fairgrounds, where a crowd of 9,500 — almost half of this western Ohio town — gathered among the barns and stables on a frigid October evening this week to glimpse the Republican presidential contender. "Where else would we want to be?" said one of the shivering faithful, Judy Cartwright, a 71-year-old nurse from Sidney. "I want

to see the next president of the United States." Romney's debate performance against President

Barack Obama last week — and his energetic appearances following it up — have fueled a rise in



Republican presidential candidate, former Massachusetts Gov. Mitt Romney, center meets his vice presidential running mate, Rep. Paul Ryan, right, R-Wis., and his wife Janna at the Port Columbus International airport, Friday, Oct. 12, 2012, in Columbus, Ohio.

(AP Photo/Mary Altaffer)

enthusiasm on the campaign trail. Whether or not it will translate into votes, polls do suggest that Republicans are fired up. It's a welcome development for the Republican businessman, who is hardly a natural politician and has long struggled to match Obama's ability to inspire excitement. In Virginia, for example, Republican leaning counties appear to be getting the fastest start on absentee voting ahead of Election Day. State Board of Elections data analyzed by the Virginia Public Access Project, a nonprofit and nonpartisan tracker of money in state politics, shows that of the 25 localities where absentee voting is busiest, 21 voted Republican in the 2008 presidential race. And of the 25 localities where absentee balloting is the slowest so far, 16 supported Obama. Romney seems to be feeding off the energy

pumping through his now-sprawling crowds, even as aides downplay the new-found momentum among the GOP base. "I'm overwhelmed by the number of people here," he exulted while scanning the sea of supporters packed beyond the fairgrounds fences here. "There are even people out there — that's another county over there." Romney's growing crowds come as new polls suggest he has erased Obama's advantage in voter support nationally. Races have tightened in a handful of battleground states, too. The president's challenge on the campaign trail this year has been to match the high excitement bar he set in 2008. For Romney, it has been to exceed low expectations. But recent polling suggests the "enthusiasm gap," long thought to lean toward Obama, has leveled off. □

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Authorities: Body is that of missing Colorado girl

P. SOLOMON BANDA

Associated Press

WESTMINSTER, Colo. (AP)

— A body found in a suburban Denver park was identified Friday as that of a missing 10-year-old girl, as anxious parents kept close and watch over their children because of potential predator in their midst, authorities said.

"Our focus has changed from the search for Jessica to a mission of justice for Jessica," Westminster Police Chief Lee Birk said. "We realize there is a predator at large in our community." The body of Jessica Ridgeway was found Wednesday about 7 miles southwest of her home. Authorities said it was not intact, but they did not explain further.

Ridgeway began a short walk from her home to Witt Elementary School on the morning of Oct. 5 but never arrived. A massive search by hundreds of law enforcement officers did not start until hours

later because Jessica's mother works nights and slept through a call from school officials saying Jessica wasn't there. The FBI has warned residents that she may have been abducted by someone they know and asking them to be alert for people they know who might have suddenly changed their appearance or uncharacteristically missed work or appointments. "It could be your boss, it could be your friend, and ultimately it could be your family member," FBI spokesman Dave Joly said. "We suspect someone in the community knows this individual." Signs of the tragedy have been everywhere in Jessica's neighborhood of two-story, modest homes with single-car garages. During the past week, officers have searched homes and yards. They kept guard at crosswalks and photographed cars entering the neighborhood. □

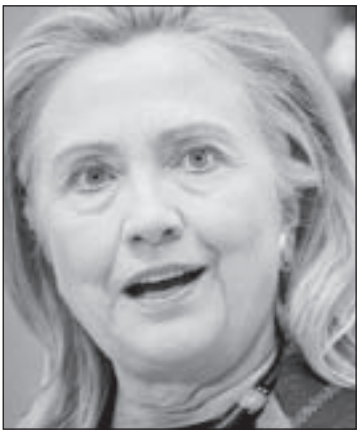
Clinton:

US must stick by Arab world's democracies

BRADLEY KLAPPER
MATTHEW LEE

Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton, addressing



Secretary of State Hillary Clinton speaks at the State Department in Washington. Clinton on Friday defended the need for American diplomats and aid workers in the Arab world's young democracies.

(AP Photo/Cliff Owen)

criticism of the Obama administration's handling of a deadly attack on U.S. consulate in Libya, on Friday defended the need for American diplomats and aid workers in the Arab world's young democracies, even amid a growing threat from al-Qaida spinoffs.

"We will not retreat," she said in a speech at a Washington think tank.

"We will never prevent every act of violence or terrorism, or achieve perfect security," Clinton said. "Our people can't live in bunkers and do their jobs. But it is our solemn responsibility to constantly improve, to reduce the risks our people face and make sure they have the resources they need to do their jobs."

Her address at the Center for Strategic and International Studies comes as Republicans seized on the Sept. 11 attack on the U.S. consulate in Benghazi, Libya, as a sign of what they say is the administration's weak foreign policy, intelligence failures and a laissez-faire attitude to-

ward security at diplomatic missions in hot spots. She spoke a day after a Yemeni security official at the U.S. Embassy in Sanaa, Yemen, was assassinated on his way to work.

With only weeks before the Nov. 6 presidential election, the outrage has crystallized around Vice President Joe Biden for claiming in Thursday's debate with Republican vice presidential nominee Paul Ryan that "we weren't told" about requests for extra security at the consulate where assailants killed the U.S. ambassador and three other Americans.

Congressional hearings this week revealed that the State Department was aware of, and rejected, several requests for increased security in Benghazi. Spokesman for both the State Department and the White House took pains Friday to make clear that Biden's "we" referred to the White House, where such requests would not go.

Clinton said she wanted to find out exactly what happened in Benghazi more than anyone, but did not go into the specifics of the consulate's security. Instead, she focused on the larger question of why the U.S. diplomats were stationed in the largely lawless Libyan city.

"Diplomacy, by its very nature, is often practiced in dangerous places," she said.

Twenty-one months into the Arab Spring, Clinton stressed that the promise of new democracies in an area of the world long dominated by autocratic rulers has not been lost. She said the U.S. needed to keep fostering the elected governments and free citizens who, she hoped, would define the region's future.

"For the United States, supporting democratic transitions is not a matter of idealism. It is a strategic necessity," she said. □

Judge denies bail in LA airport weapons case

GREG RISLING

Associated Press

LOS ANGELES (AP) — A man who wore a bullet-proof vest on a plane and had knives, a hatchet and other dangerous items in his checked bags also had manuals on his computer that detailed how to kill people and Japanese school schedules showing when kids would arrive and leave, federal authorities disclosed Friday.

U.S. Magistrate Judge Paul Abrams said Yongda Huang Harris, 28, will be held without bond until he stands trial because he is a flight risk. Federal prosecutors argued Harris is a danger to community by noting that his computer had various publications outlining how to commit certain types of murders and kidnappings. One document entitled "Man Trapping" showed how to hunt and trap human beings.

Assistant U.S. Attorney Melissa Mills said Harris' computer revealed he had a "strong interest" in sexual violence against girls. There was also a document that had schedules for some schools in Japan detailing when students would come and go.



This image provided by the Los Angeles Police Department shows officials seizing material from the luggage of Yongda Huang Harris after he attempted to enter the United States at Los Angeles International Airport. A detention hearing was held Friday Oct. 12, 2012 for Harris where he was remanded back into custody.

(AP Photo/LAPD)

All the evidence provided in court "show that he is not making good choices," Abrams said in his ruling. Harris was arrested a week ago during a stopover in Los Angeles on his trip from Japan to Boston. He was wearing a bulletproof vest under a trench coat and also wore flame-retardant

pants and knee pads.

A search of his checked luggage uncovered numerous suspicious items, including a smoke grenade, knives, body bags, a hatchet, collapsible baton, biohazard suit, billy clubs, handcuffs, leg irons and a device to repel dogs, authorities said. □

Secret Service officer arrested following Obama trip to Miami

ALICIA A. CALDWELL
DAVID FISCHER

Associated Press

MIAMI (AP) — In the latest embarrassing spectacle for the Secret Service, one of its officers was found passed out and apparently drunk on a Miami street corner less than 12 hours after President Barack left the city following a day trip to campaign, police in Florida said.

Aaron Francis Engler, an officer with the storied agency's uniformed division, was not on duty when he was found unresponsive on

a sidewalk near a popular nightlife area in downtown Miami about 7 a.m. Engler was in Miami in a support role for Obama's trip, which included an afternoon campaign rally at the University of Miami and an evening fundraiser. His exact duties during Obama's visit were unclear, but he was not part of the president's personal security detail. Edwin Donovan, a Secret Service spokesman, said the case will be turned over to the agency's Office of Professional Responsibility, which investigates alle-

gations of wrongdoing by Secret Service employees. This is the second alcohol-related incident for the agency in the last six months. In April, 13 officers and agents were implicated in a prostitution scandal in Cartagena, Colombia, in advance of Obama's arrival for a South American summit. After a night of partying in some of Cartagena's bars and clubs, the employees brought women, including prostitutes, back to the Hotel Caribe, where the employees were staying. □

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Mom gets 99 years in prison for brutal child abuse

NOMAAN MERCHANT

Associated Press

DALLAS (AP) — A Dallas woman who beat her 2-year-old daughter and glued the toddler's hands to a wall was sentenced Friday to 99 years in prison by a judge who described his decision as a necessary punishment for a brutal, shocking attack. Elizabeth Escalona did not immediately react as State District Judge Larry Mitchell pronounced the sentence at the end of a five-day hearing. Prosecutor Eren Price, who originally offered Escalona a plea deal for 45 years, had argued that she now thought the 23-year-old mother deserved life. Mitchell said his decision came down to one thing.

"On Sept. 7, 2011, you savagely beat your child to the edge of death," Mitchell said. "For this you must be punished."

The beating left Jocelyn Cedillo in a coma for a couple of days.

Escalona's other children told authorities their mother attacked Jocelyn due to potty training problems. Police say she kicked her daughter in the stomach, beat her with a milk jug, then stuck her hands to an apartment wall with an adhesive commonly known as Super Glue.

Jocelyn suffered bleeding in her brain, a fractured rib, multiple bruises and bite marks, a doctor testified. Some skin had been torn off her hands, where doc-



The words shown on a overhead display written by prosecutor Eren Price, left, are shown in court as an emotional Elizabeth Escalona, 23, responds to a line of questioning during the sentencing phase of her trial Thursday, Oct. 11, 2012, in Dallas. Escalona was sentenced Friday, Oct. 12, 2012 to 99 years in prison for beating her toddler and gluing the child's hands to a wall.

(AP Photo/Tony Gutierrez)

tors also found glue residue and white paint chips from the apartment wall.

Escalona pleaded guilty in July to one count of felony injury to a child.

Price said Escalona would be eligible to apply for parole in 30 years.

Mitchell could have sentenced Escalona to any-

where from probation to life in prison. A sentence as long as 99 years is rare for felony injury to a child cases in Texas, but not unheard of. According to the Texas Department of Criminal Justice, about 2,100 inmates are serving prison sentences for felony injury offenses involving a child,

elderly or disabled victim. Just fewer than 5 percent of those inmates are serving sentences of 99 years or more, including life.

Defense attorney Angie N'Duka said afterward that the sentence was "way too harsh" and suggested the widespread attention her client's case had received contributed to the sentence.

"It's a lot of pressure, a lot of pressure on the parties," N'Duka said.

Price said prosecutors decided to ask for a longer sentence after receiving more evidence they wouldn't have had if Escalona had taken a deal for 45 years.

"We feel like the judge listened very carefully to a very difficult week of testimony, and we feel like he did exactly what the evidence called for," Price said.

Throughout the hearing, Price sought to portray Escalona as a liar, a monster and an unfit mother. □

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Romney's comments put public TV in the spotlight

BRIAN STELTER
ELIZABETH JENSEN

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It has been a strange week for public television execu-

dential debate to "stop the subsidy to PBS," and the subsequent political jousting between him and President Barack Obama over

local stations that say they are nonpartisan and would like to stay that way.

The public broadcasting budget has long been a target of Republicans in Congress, most famously when Newt Gingrich called for the privatization of PBS in 1994. Paula A. Kerger, the PBS chief executive, however, said she could not recall a time when a presidential candidate had opposed the financing in so public a forum. "We sprang into action quickly," said Kerger, who "dropped everything" the day after the debate to answer questions from the news media.

Both the Obama and Romney campaigns see political advantages in the conversation over whether the government should help pay for radio and television programming. It allows Romney to portray himself as a budget-cutter and appeal to conservatives who believe that public media programs have a liberal bias; it allows Obama, in turn, to mock Romney's proposal and appeal to

voters who oppose cuts to public broadcasting.

The public television executives caught in the middle say the issue is drawing far more attention than it truly merits. "We would very much like to be out of the picture as soon as possible," said Patrick Butler, the head of the main lobbying group for public television stations. "We think there are more important issues for presidential candidates to talk about than our little funding issue here."

The Corporation for Public Broadcasting received \$445 million from the government this year, about

two-thirds of which was granted directly to local television and radio stations. The rest was spent on grants for programming and administrative costs. The total amount is about one one-hundredth of 1 percent of the federal budget, contradicting the widely held belief that public broadcasting represents 1 percent or more.

The campaign trail comments about public broadcasting this week have made "folks more aware of how small the number is and how deep the appreciation of public television is," said Rich Homberg. □



A protester dressed as Big Bird with a sign paid for by the Ohio Democratic Party before a rally held by Mitt Romney, the Republican presidential candidate, in Delaware, Ohio, Oct. 10, 2012. After Romney pledged to "stop the subsidy to PBS," causing a subsequent political jousting after, new attention to the public funding of television and radio has elevated to an election issue much to the dismay of PBS and local stations that say they're nonpartisan and would like to stay that way.

(Josh Haner/The New York Times)

tives. Meetings have been postponed. Trips have been canceled. And conversations have turned in urgency to of all things, Big Bird. The turn of events can be traced to Mitt Romney's pledge at the Oct. 3 presi-

dential debate to "stop the subsidy to PBS," and the subsequent political jousting between him and President Barack Obama over the fate of the iconic Sesame Street character. The give-and-take has brought new attention to the public financing of television and radio and has elevated it to an election issue, much to the dismay of PBS and



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Clashes between protesters flair in Cairo's Tahrir Square

AYA BATRAWY
MAGGIE MICHAEL
Associated Press

CAIRO (AP) — Thousands of supporters and opponents of Egypt's new Islamist president clashed in Cairo's Tahrir Square on Friday in the first such violence since Mohammed Morsi took office more than three months ago, as liberal and secular activists erupted with anger accusing the Muslim Brotherhood of trying to take over the country. The two sides hurled stones and chunks of concrete and beat each other with sticks for several hours, leaving more than 100 injured, according to the state news agency. Two buses used by the Brotherhood to bring in supporters were set aflame behind the Egyptian Museum, the repository of the country's pharaonic antiquities, and thick black smoke billowed into the sky in scenes reminiscent of last year's clashes between protesters against the regime of then-leader Hosni Mubarak and his backers. The melee erupted between two competing rallies in Tah-

rir. One was by liberal and secular activists to criticize Morsi's failure to achieve promises he had made for first 100 days in power, the other had been called by Morsi's Muslim Brotherhood.



A protester throws a stone after scuffles broke out between groups of several hundred protesters in Tahrir square when chants against the new Islamist president angered some in the crowd in Cairo, Egypt, Oct. 12, 2012. The scuffles between supporters and opponents of President Mohammed Morsi reflect deep political divisions among the country's 82 million people, more than a year after the popular uprising that toppled Hosni Mubarak.

(AP Photo/Khalil Hamra)

The clashes come as criticism among leftists, liberals and secularists against Morsi has been growing since he was inaugurated

more than three months ago as Egypt's first freely elected president. Opponents accuse Morsi, the Brotherhood and other Islamists of trying to impose their dominance and Islamize the state, including

ure, has not done more to resolve the multiple problems facing the country — from a faltering economy and fuel shortages to tenuous security and uncollected piles of garbage in the streets.

Morsi boasted earlier this week in a nationally televised speech that he had carried out much of what he had promised for his first 100 days, and his supporters say he needs time in the face of overwhelming difficulties inherited from Mubarak's authoritarian and corruption-riddled rule.

One anti-Brotherhood protester in Tahrir, Abdullah Waleed, said he had voted for Morsi in this year's election to prevent his opponent — a longtime Mubarak loyalist — from winning.

"Now I regret it because they are just two faces of the same coin," Waleed said. "Morsi has done nothing for the revolution. I want to say I am so sorry for bringing in another repressive regime."

Violence also broke out in the industrial city of Mahalla el-Kobra, a hotbed of regime opponents and labor activists in the Nile Delta renowned for its history of revolts against Mubarak. Protesters torched headquarters of the Muslim Brotherhood in the city and set fire to Morsi posters.

Days ago, liberal and leftist groups had called for Friday's protest in Tahrir to demand accountability over Morsi's three-month rule. They also demand greater diversity on the panel tasked with writing Egypt's new constitution, which is packed with Brotherhood members and other Islamists who have proposed provisions opponents say greatly suppress civil liberties.

The Brotherhood called for a separate rally to denounce the acquittals earlier this week of 24 former senior figures from Mubarak's regime who had been accused of organizing a deadly attack on protesters during last year's Jan. 25-Feb. 11 wave of protests that led to Mubarak's ouster. □

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Syrian missile base seized with help of Islamic militants

**BEN HUBBARD
ZEINA KARAM
Associated Press**

BEIRUT (AP) — Fighters from a shadowy militant group with suspected links to al-Qaida joined Syrian rebels in seizing a government missile defense base in northern Syria on Friday, according to activists and amateur video. It was unclear if the rebels were able to hold the base after the attack, and analysts questioned whether they would be able to make use of any of the missiles they may have spirited away. Nevertheless, the assault underscored fears of advanced weaponry falling

into the hands of extremists playing an increasingly large role in Syria's civil war. Videos purportedly shot inside the air defense base and posted online stated that the extremist group, Jabhat al-Nusra, participated in the overnight battle near the village of al-Taaneh, five kilometers (three miles) east of the country's largest city, Aleppo. The videos show dozens of fighters inside the base near a radar tower, along with rows of large missiles, some on the backs of trucks. A report by a correspon-

dent with the Arabic satellite network Al-Jazeera who visited the base Friday said Jabhat al-Nusra took the lead in the attack, killing three guards and taking others prisoner before seizing the base. The report showed a number of missiles and charred buildings, as well as fighters wearing black masks. Two Aleppo-based activists and Rami Abdul-Rahman, head of the Syrian Observatory for Human Rights, also said Jabhat al-Nusra fought in the battle with other rebel groups. They disputed the notion that the extremist group had



A Free Syrian Army fighter fires his weapon against Syrian Army positions in the Karmal Jabl district of Aleppo, Syria. Fighters from a shadowy militant group with suspected links to al-Qaida joined Syrian rebels in seizing a government missile defense base in northern Syria on Friday, according to activists and amateur video.

(AP Photo/Manu Brabo)

Cocaine seizure spells more bananas for Rotterdam zoo



More than eight tons of cocaine were hidden among boxes of bananas when it was seized in Antwerp, and the fruit went to the monkeys and other creatures at the Blijdorp zoo in Rotterdam. (AP Photo)

THE HAGUE, Netherlands (AP) — A major cocaine seizure in Europe has turned out to be good news for the animals at Rotterdam's zoo. The drugs were hidden among boxes of bananas, and the fruit was later donated to the monkeys and other creatures at the Blijdorp zoo. Dutch prosecutors said Friday more than eight tons of cocaine was hidden among the bananas on a ship from Ecuador. The drugs were seized Monday in the Belgian port of Antwerp, while the bananas were allowed to continue on to Rotterdam — the shipment's final destination. Dutch police arrested a Belgian truck driver and four Dutch men on Tuesday.

Dutch authorities say the seizure is the biggest ever in the Netherlands or Belgium. □

the lead role in the attack, however. It was impossible to independently verify the videos and conflicting reports because of restrictions on reporting in Syria. Despite Western opposition to President Bashar Assad's regime, the U.S. and other countries have cited the presence of extremists among the rebels as a reason not to supply the Syrian insurgents with weapons. They have repeatedly cited concerns of heavy weaponry falling into wrong hands. Rebel leaders argue that arms shortages mean they'll take aid from who-

ever offers it, regardless of their ideology. The capture of the base also plays into fears about extremists acquiring Syria's chemical and biological weapons — particularly if the Assad regime collapses and loses control of them. Neighboring Jordan's King Abdullah II fears such weapons could go to al-Qaida or other militants, primarily the Iranian-allied Lebanese Hezbollah. The U.S. has sent about 150 troops to Jordan, largely Army special operations forces, to bolster the kingdom's military capabilities in the event Syria's civil war escalates. □



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Pakistan:

Police make arrests in Malala shooting

**SHERIN ZADA
Associated Press**

MINGORA, Pakistan (AP) — Pakistani police have arrested a number of suspects

earned the enmity of the Taliban for publicizing their acts and speaking about the importance of education for girls.

took place.

Mingora police chief Afzal Khan Afridi said arrests had been made, but he declined to give any details about the number of people detained or what role they're suspected of having in the shooting. He said he did not want to endanger the ongoing investigation.

Interior Minister Rehman Malik told reporters Friday that the two gunmen who staged the attack were not among those arrested, but he said investigators had identified the masterminds of the shooting and efforts were under way to capture all those involved.

The Taliban spokesman, Sirajuddin Ahmad, said Yousufzai's family had been warned three times — the most recent warning coming last week — before the decision was made to kill her.

Ahmad said local Taliban leader Maulana Fazlullah and his deputies selected three attackers, including two trained sharpshooters, who carefully studied the girl's route home from school.

Fazlullah, along with much of the Swat Taliban's top leadership, escaped the offensive and is believed to be operating from a base in eastern Afghanistan and sending fighters back across the border to attack northwest Pakistan.

But there are indications that he was trying once again to make inroads into the area. □



Pakistan's Prime Minister Raja Pervez Ashraf, center, flanked by leaders of allied parties in government, talks to reporters at a military hospital in Rawalpindi, Pakistan on Friday, Oct. 12, 2012. Ashraf, who visited the hospital to meet Malala Yousufzai, who was shot on Tuesday by the Taliban for speaking out in support of education for girls, told media that the attack on Malala is not a crime against an individual but a crime against humanity and an attack on our core moral and social values.

(AP Photo/B.K. Bangash)

in the case of a 14-year-old girl shot and wounded by the Taliban for promoting education for girls and criticizing the fundamentalist Islamic movement, officials said Friday.

The shooting of Malala Yousufzai along with two classmates while they were on their way home from school Tuesday horrified people in Pakistan and internationally. It has been followed by an outpouring of support for a girl who

The Taliban have claimed responsibility for the shooting, saying that the girl was promoting "Western thinking." Late on Thursday, a spokesman for one of the group's branches in the country's north decided two months ago to kill Yousufzai in a carefully planned attack after her family ignored repeated warnings. Police have been questioning people in the town of Mingora, in the Swat Valley, where the shooting



Iranian supreme leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, speaks at a public gathering on his tour to the northeastern city of Bojnourd, Iran. Khamenei said Friday that his country's military is ready to deter any attack and warned enemies of the Islamic Republic to abandon any "thoughts of invasion." A picture of late Iranian revolutionary founder Ayatollah Khomeini hang at rear.

(AP Photo/Office of the Supreme Leader)

Iran's leader says army is ready to deter any attack

TEHRAN, Iran (AP) — Iran's supreme leader said Friday that his country's military is ready to deter any attack and warned enemies of the Islamic Republic to abandon any "thoughts of invasion."

Ayatollah Ali Khamenei's remarks came as tensions are rising in the region over a possible strike by Israel against Iran's nuclear facilities.

The U.S. and its allies accuse Iran of using its civilian nuclear program as a cover to develop nuclear weapons. Tehran has denied the charges, saying its program is peaceful and geared toward generating electricity and producing radioisotopes to treat cancer patients.

"The readiness of the Iranian armed forces is such ...

it will deter the enemy from harboring any thoughts of invasion," state TV quoted Khamenei as saying during a visit to a military base in the country's northeast.

Israel has not ruled out a military option against Iran's suspect program and has recently said that time is running out before Iran obtains a nuclear weapon. Israel considers a nuclear-armed Iran to be a threat to its existence, citing Iranian denials of the Holocaust, calls for Israel's destruction, development of missiles capable of striking the Jewish state and its support for hostile Arab militant groups.

Washington and others favor a mix of sanctions and diplomacy to try to force Tehran to curb its nuclear program. □

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Colombia armed forces' crucial role in peace talks

LIBARDO CARDONA

Associated Press

BOGOTA, Colombia (AP) —

Gen. Jorge Enrique Mora spent a professional lifetime battling Colombia's rebels, whose assaults on troops under his command have compelled him to attend more funerals than most could bear.

On Monday, though, he sits down with them to talk peace, and the former armed forces chief may be the key to whether the negotiations that open in the Norwegian capital of Oslo succeed or fail.

Mora and other military men were accused of trying to sabotage negotiations the last time the government held talks to try to end its half-century-old conflict with the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia, or FARC, the country's main leftist insurgency. During the talks from 1999 to 2002, the government allowed the rebels a Switzerland-sized safe haven and decreed a cease-



In this May 1, 2001 file photo, Gen. Jorge Enrique Mora, left, holds a weapon used by suspected paramilitary fighters in Buenaventura, about 215 miles southwest of Bogota, Colombia. Mora spent a professional lifetime battling Colombia's rebels. On Monday, Oct. 15, 2012 he sits down with them to talk peace, and the former armed forces chief may be the key to whether the negotiations that open in the Norwegian capital of Oslo succeed or fail. Former Colombian President Andres Patrana is pictured at right. (AP Photo/Scott Dalton)

fire, outraging Mora and his cohort.

For him they were simply "bandits, drug traffickers and terrorists." The army commander at the time, he dragged his feet in removing troops from the safe haven, and the military repeatedly defied civilian leaders by ordering overflights that rattled the rebels.

time, as a renewed effort to obtain peace with those same rebels opens formally in Oslo before moving to Cuba in late October, President Juan Manuel Santos opted not to exclude the soldiers. knows he needs the military's blessing to sell to the public, and the barracks, on any deal that might be struck. So he put Mora on the five-man team. "One of many reasons why the last peace process failed was that they didn't have buy-in from the armed forces," said Adam Isacson, a Colombia expert at the Washington Office on Latin

America. "Getting them involved early was smart, so they couldn't play the role of spoilers."

Mora represents a constituency that has done a good deal of the dying a conflict that has claimed tens of thousands of lives. Hundreds of troops are killed annually, hundreds more maimed by mines.

Soldiers and police have also been captured and held, in some cases, for more than a decade in jungle prisons. The FARC released the last of those prisoners in April as a condition for the launch of secret talks in Havana.

president of Colombia's Association of Retired Military Officers, former army Gen. Jaime Ruiz, calls the military's role in negotiations crucial. "While we have no trust (in the guerrillas), we can't oppose this process," said, "because the country wants peace." An opinion poll published last month by Semana magazine found 77 percent of Colombians support the peace talks. It polled 1,012 people in 13 cities and had an error margin of 3 percentage points. Like other military men, Ruiz was heartened when Santos made it clear military operations will continue until a peace deal can be reached in which the FARC will be obliged to disarm. This time around, there will be neither a cease-fire nor a safe haven for the rebels. As the 1999-2002 talks dragged on, the rebels continued to attack Mora's troops outside the safe haven and he publicly complained that the FARC continued to kidnap while expanding its cocaine trafficking. □

New computer virus targets Venezuelans after vote

CARACAS, Venezuela (AP)

— A newly detected computer virus aims to steal Venezuelans' online credentials using a link that purports to reveal information about the country's recent presidential election, the digital security company Kaspersky Lab said on Friday.

The malicious software was launched after Venezuela's Oct. 7 presidential election and was spread by email, said Dmitry Bestuzhev, head of the Moscow-based company's research and analysis team in Latin America.

At least 75 Kaspersky customers have been infected by the malware, but non-customers have surely been hit, too, he said. Bestuzhev said in a blog post on Friday that the malicious file is named "listas-fraude-electoral.pdf.exe," which translates as "electoral fraud lists" — a title likely to make some Venezuelans curious after President Hugo Chavez's re-election victory. He explained by email that computer users received an email message with a link. Once a victim clicked on the link, he said, the

person was redirected to a fake website purporting to belong to the Venezuelan television channel Globovision. "After the click the malicious file was automatically downloaded," Bestuzhev said. He said the malware allows criminals to steal victims' banking information and also online credentials for those holding accounts with Venezuela's currency agency, known by its Spanish initials CADIVI. Venezuela's government maintains strict foreign currency exchange controls, and the currency agency provides people who ap-

ply with limited amounts of dollars or other currencies for purposes including travel, certain imported goods and overseas tuition payments.

The malware was designed to gain access to Venezuelans' CADIVI accounts to use their allotted dollars, Bestuzhev said.

"Being that this malware is quite simple and also targeting only Venezuelan banks and CADIVI, we can strongly assume that the cybercriminals who produced it are from Venezuela too," he wrote on the blog. □

Focus on fair growth urged by IMF, World Bank chiefs

ELAINE KURTENBACH

AP Business Writer

TOKYO (AP) — Countries should not sacrifice growth for the sake of austerity, the head of the International Monetary Fund told global financial leaders Friday, urging that the pace of government debt reduction be tempered by spending to help get the unemployed back to work. Balancing those sometimes competing priorities is the central puzzle facing policymakers as the world economy slows further, even in dynamic Asia, IMF chief Christine Lagarde told finance leaders at the IMF and World Bank annual meeting in Tokyo.

Lagarde said she was "desperately optimistic" on prospects for a global recovery, while warning against backsliding on reforms needed to prevent future financial crises.

"The first priority, clearly, is to get beyond the crisis, and restore growth, especially to end the scourge of unemployment," Lagarde said.

Greece, Spain and other

European countries laboring under massive debts have slashed spending and raised taxes, seeking to restore confidence in their public finances and qualify for emergency financing. The economies of financially healthier European countries, such as Germany and Finland, face a potential blow to growth if those troubled economies fail to get their financial houses in order. At the same time, the recovery of the 17-nation grouping that uses the euro could founder if tax increases and spending cuts bite too deeply.

While there seems to be a wide consensus on long-term strategies for reform, there is less agreement how painful such policies should be in the near-term given the persistent risk of recession and surging unemployment.

"One lesson though is clear from history," Lagarde said. "Reducing public debt is incredibly difficult without growth. High debt, in turn, makes it harder to get growth, so it's a very nar-

row path to be taken."

"It's probably a long path, and one for which there is probably no shortcut, either. It's a path that needs to be taken," she said.

Lagarde said monetary

"That's the package that is needed," Lagarde said. "Let us not delude ourselves. Without growth, the future of the global economy is in jeopardy."

"It's a marathon, not a

42 kilometers of a marathon, you can't just stop and turn around and go the other way," Schauble retorted, accusing those who favor going easy on debt reduction of backpedaling on their commitments.

"Increasing public debt does not enhance growth, it damages growth," he said.

Lagarde contended that it was not an issue of reversing commitments but of adjusting the pace to suit each country's unique situation.

The IMF has scaled back its global growth forecast for 2012 to 3.3 percent from 3.5 percent, and has warned that even its dimmer outlook might prove too optimistic if Europe and the United States fail to resolve their crises.

On Friday, the fund said economic growth in the Asia-Pacific region slowed to 5.5 percent in January-June. That is well above the global average, but the lowest for the region since the financial crisis in 2008. The slowdown is largely because of sluggishness in Europe and the U.S. It also noted weakness in China and India, whose dynamism had helped counter weakness elsewhere.

"The global recovery is still too weak. Job prospects for untold millions are still too scarce, and the gap between the rich and the poor is still way too big," Lagarde said. Europe's darkening economic outlook is drawing calls for more public support even from austerity champion Chancellor Angela Merkel. She said Thursday it was incumbent on Germany, whose 0.3 percent growth in the second quarter helped offset a 0.2 percent contraction among the 17 nation grouping that uses the euro, to "do things to stimulate the European economy." Lagarde has urged that European creditors give Greece an extra two years to meet austerity targets required to get and continue receiving loans, after nearly defaulting on its mountain of debt. □



From left to right, the IMFC Chairman Tharman Shanmugaratnam, the IMF Managing Director Christine Lagarde, Japanese Prime Minister Yoshihiko Noda and Japanese Finance Minister Koriki Jojima give a toast during a ceremony at a welcome reception for the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and the World Bank Annual Meetings in Tokyo, Friday, Oct. 12, 2012.

(AP Photo/Franck Robichon, Pool)

policies must encourage banks to lend, while spending cuts are adjusted to the "right pace." Debts must be brought down in the medium term, and structural reforms are needed to sustain growth in the long term, she said.

sprint. It could take years," Lagarde said in an on-camera debate hosted by the British Broadcasting Corp. where she good naturedly traded jibes with German Finance Minister Wolfgang Schauble.

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Hawksbill Turtles found their way to the sea! Turtugaruba thanks all beach visitors for respecting the nest.

Information about Turtugaruba : www.facebook.com/Turtugaruba. □

Alltel Wireless and Team Aruba make impression within the ADRL

UNION, S.C. October 11, 2012: Walk through the Extreme Pro Stock pits at an ADRL event and there's one particular pit area that will undoubtedly catch your eye. While fans often search out the last event winner or the current reigning Champion, the pits of the underdog team from Aruba are arguably the hardest to miss in all the ADRL and a sure stop for fans. With palm trees reminiscent of their homeland, a beautiful and brightly colored design on both the trailer and their Aruba.com Mustang, and a sea of friendly faces, it's easy to see why fans are drawn to Team Aruba. That sea of friendly faces is also usually made up of the folks from Alltel Wireless. The Alltel team joins Team Aruba at certain events on the tour and amplifies the inviting atmosphere with giveaways, welcoming personnel and, of course, the latest and greatest deals in cellular service. ADRL President, Tim McAmis, has also taken notice of their efforts: "Team Aruba and Alltel



Beauty On The Beach

Stephanie & Angelique

Stephanie Borgis (left) and Angelique Jawalapersad (right), from Paramaribo, Suriname. They are on vacation for their first visit to the island, and they are staying at the apartment complex at Super Car Rental.

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always create an inviting environment at the race track. They do a terrific job of engaging the fans and inviting people into their space. They are creative in marketing their country and their sponsors in a very positive and friendly manner. The pit area and surroundings are bold and colorful with constant activity and excitement. Fans want to be a part of that. It is always great to have them at ADRL events." "We always strive to represent our country and sponsors well," added Team Aruba driver, Trevor Eman. "It's wonderful to have Alltel on board with us because they work just as hard to create a positive

atmosphere around our pit area. We really enjoy having them at the track with us whenever they can make it. Sponsor involvement seems to be on a decline, so Alltel's presence is encouraging and sets the bar for other sponsors. Having true partnerships where sponsors are actively involved in our events makes all the difference. We want to thank Alltel for taking an active role and utilizing the opportunities available to them at the ADRL events." Alltel Wireless has been on board with Team Aruba for several years now and is an influential facet of their ADRL presence. For more visit www.alltel-wireless.com.



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Aruba's beauty captured in "Endless Vacation" photo-shoot



Recently Mr. Jonathan Boekhoudt and the Aruba Tourism Authority had the great pleasure of hosting Mr. Chris Rogers, photographer for Endless Vacation Magazine, during his stay on Aru-

ba. Endless Vacation Magazine concentrates on and promotes tourism destinations around the world, and what better place in the Caribbean to feature than Aruba! The photo-shoot

captured the natural beauty of several different sites on the island, including Eagle Beach, Palm Beach, Oranjestad, Arikok National Park and Baby Beach. □

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ORANJESTAD- Benjamin Petrocchi, a true native Aruban started the newest export product of Aruba, locally produced hand rolled cigars called "Aruhiba". These cigars are produced and cultivated in Aruba. Petrocchi always had a interest in the cigar business and has also sold Premium Cuban Cigars, and now he is growing his own tobacco crops. After many attempts and trips to Santo Domingo and Cuba, he started his own production and cultivation of Aruhiba Cigars in Aruba. The whole process took him 10 years to perfect. Petrocchi dedication to the cigars is important for the moulding and process of making a perfect cigar which takes a long time. Their handmade cigar box is specially designed with their "Aruhiba" logo. Petrocchi considers Aruhiba as a promotion for Aruba through its fine cigars. The company sells Aruhiba to the international markets as well. Visit their retail store located in front of the Historic Dutch Windmill in front of the Westin Resort, with any purchase of \$20 and up you receive a free "Aruhiba" cigar or ask for their gift box of 5 cigars get 1 FREE for only \$37. They open from Monday to Saturday from 9 am till 6:30 pm and on Sundays from 9 am to 1 pm. Aruhiba cigars are now available at the gift stores in your resort



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England's Justin Rose holds up the trophy after winning the World Golf Final in Belek, Antalya, Turkey, Friday, Oct. 12, 2012. Justin Rose picked up a \$1.5 million paycheck — the biggest of his career — after beating

Bruyneel out at RadioShack in wake of USADA report

GRAHAM DUNBAR
AP Sports Writer

GENEVA (AP) — Lance Armstrong's former manager Johan Bruyneel left the RadioShack-Nissan team Friday after he was singled out as a central figure in the former Tour de France champion's doping program.

The RadioShack-Nissan team said the decision was taken by "mutual agreement," adding that Bruyneel "can no longer direct the team in an efficient and comfortable way."

"His departure is desirable to ensure the serenity and cohesiveness within the team," it said in a statement.

Bruyneel said he was leaving "to concentrate on my defense," having opted for an arbitration hearing to fight charges leveled by the U.S. Anti-Doping Agency.

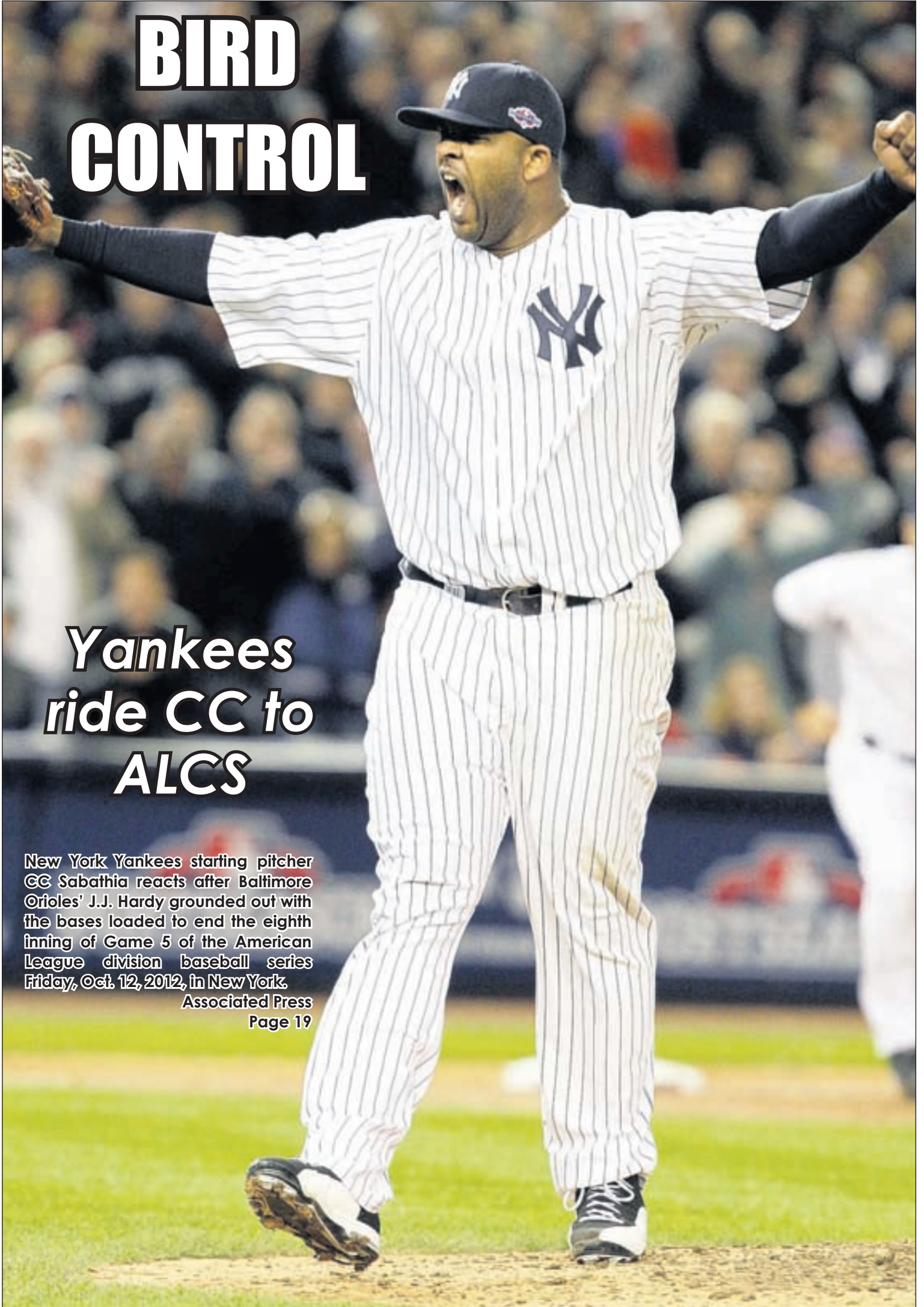
Armstrong was banned from Olympic sports for life by USADA and stripped of his seven Tour titles after choosing in August not to contest the allegations, including that he used and supplied banned drugs.

BIRD CONTROL

Yankees ride CC to ALCS

New York Yankees starting pitcher CC Sabathia reacts after Baltimore Orioles' J.J. Hardy grounded out with the bases loaded to end the eighth inning of Game 5 of the American League division baseball series Friday, Oct. 12, 2012, in New York.

Associated Press
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Fever beat Sun 87-71 to advance to WNBA Finals

WNBA Playoffs Roundup

UNCASVILLE, Connecticut (AP)

— The Indiana Fever has booked a place in the WNBA finals series with an 87-71 win over the Connecticut Sun on Thursday, overcoming the early injury loss of leading scorer Katie Douglas. Tamika Catchings scored 22 points and grabbed 13 rebounds for Indiana, which lost the opening game of the best-of-three Eastern Conference finals series but came back to win the last two.

The Fever, who have won four games while facing elimination during the playoffs, won comfortably even after Douglas went down with an ankle injury just 5 minutes into the game.

"When Katie went down, you could just see the fire in



Indiana Fever players celebrate after defeating the Connecticut Sun 87-71 in Game 3 of the WNBA basketball Eastern Conference finals, in Uncasville, Conn., Thursday, Oct. 11, 2012. The Fever advanced to the WNBA finals.

Associated Press

everybody's eyes," coach Lin Dunn said. "We just took it to a whole 'nother level.

We could have folded up our little tent and gone home when one of our

big 'uns got hurt. But we didn't."

Douglas had been the team's leading scorer in the playoffs, and had 51 points in the first two games of this series.

The bench picked up the slack with 32 points, led by Erin Phillips who had 15. The Fever hit 10 3-pointers, including their first seven.

"Everyone just stepped up," Phillips said. "We showed a lot of poise and were aggressive. It was just an awesome team game." League MVP Tina Charles led the Sun with 18 points and 10 rebounds. Kara Lawson added 16 points.

Indiana will play at defending WNBA champion Minnesota, which swept Los Angeles in the Western Conference, in Game 1 of the best-of-five finals on

Sunday.

Indiana has made eight straight trips to the post-season, but has played in the finals only once, losing to Phoenix in 2009. Catchings and Douglas are both in their 11th seasons, and neither has won a WNBA championship. The Fever had never won a road elimination game in the playoffs. They are trying to become the first team to overcome 1-0 deficits in the first two rounds of the WNBA playoffs to win a title. They were 0-6 in road game in five Eastern Conference finals coming into Thursday's game.

"I'm tired of hearing, 'You can't ever do this in the third game' or 'You've never done this. You've never done that.'" Dunn said. "Now we've done it." □

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Continued from Page 17

Friday's announcement came two days after USA-DA's damning report on Armstrong exposed the doping program in the U.S. Postal Service and Discovery Channel teams that Bruyneel managed when Armstrong rode to seven straight Tour de France victories from 1999-2005. "In light of these testimonies, both parties feel it is necessary to make this decision," RadioShack said. Its sponsors include longtime Armstrong backers Nike, Trek, Oakley and Livestrong. Bruyneel, who was general manager of the Luxembourg-based team, now has his own legal battle with USADA which placed him at the heart of doping programs for Armstrong's teams through the rider's second retirement in 2010. "I am surprised and extremely disappointed that USADA released informa-

tion in the public domain relating to their pending case against me before I had been given any opportunity to review the evidence and provide my defense against it," Bruyneel said. "I still hope to be able to defend myself in a forum free from bias, although I now fear that USADA's calculated action may have irreversibly prejudiced my case," he said in a statement published on his personal website. Armstrong and Bruyneel were an unbreakable partnership for years, with Armstrong widely crediting the Belgian for helping him achieve his Tour successes on a U.S. Postal Service team that dominated cycling's showcase race. Armstrong rode his final Tour in 2010 under Bruyneel's leadership, with the new RadioShack team that Armstrong co-owned. Bruyneel also helped Spaniard Alberto Contador win the 2007 Tour for the Discov-

ery team and worked with both Armstrong and Contador on the 2009 Tour, which Contador also won. USADA's dossier pinpointed Bruyneel as the focal point of massive doping throughout the USPS team's heyday. "The overwhelming evidence in this case is that Johan Bruyneel was intimately involved in all significant details of the U.S. Postal team's doping program," USADA said in its 200-page report. "He was on top of the details for organizing blood transfusion programs before the major Tours, and he knew when athletes needed to take EPO to regenerate their blood supply after extracting blood." The report added that "Bruyneel learned how to introduce young men to performance enhancing drugs, becoming adept at leading them down the path from newly minted professional rider to veteran drug user."

Former Armstrong teammates also said Bruyneel appeared to have advance knowledge of when drug-testing teams would arrive to take samples. RadioShack thanked Bruyneel for "his dedication and devotion" to the team, but was quick to further distance itself from him. "The USADA investigation does not concern the activities of Mr. Bruyneel while managing," the team, the statement said. At this year's Tour, RadioShack-Nissan team leader Frank Schleck tested positive for a banned diuretic. The Luxembourg rider was

pulled from the Tour after the International Cycling Union said he had tested positive for the banned diuretic Xipamide. Schleck has a disciplinary hearing scheduled with the Luxembourg cycling federation on Monday. Tensions within the RadioShack-Nissan team were detailed in comments by star rider Fabian Cancellara reported Friday by Belgian daily Het Laatste Nieuws. "I've heard that in 200 pages, Bruyneel's name appears 129 times," the Swiss rider said. "I want to know what happened. I don't know if I can work with Johan." □



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CASINO AND SHOPS

The right stuff: Yanks beat O's, advance to ALCS

By RONALD BLUM

AP Sports Writer

NEW YORK (AP) -- Yankees-Orioles. Playoffs. Disputed home run to right field. Yankees win.

Sound familiar?

CC Sabathia and his New York teammates saw Nate McLouth's long drive called foul by the slimmest of margins - hello, Jeffrey Maier - and then hung on to beat Baltimore 3-1 Friday in the deciding Game 5 of the AL division series.

With Alex Rodriguez benched, the Yankees advanced to the AL championship series against the Detroit Tigers, starting Saturday night in the Bronx.

Sabathia pitched a four-hitter, wriggling out of a bases-loaded jam in the eighth inning.

It was his first career post-season complete game, and the first for the Yankees since Roger Clemens did it in 2000.

Yet it was another piece of history that this game evoked.

Baltimore again was stung on a close play in right, echoing what happened across the street at the old Yankee Stadium in the 1996 AL championship opener. This time, with the Orioles trailing 1-0 in the sixth, McLouth sent a 3-1 pitch deep down the right-field line. Eyes turned to right field umpire Fieldin Culbreth, who demonstrably waved foul with both arms. Orioles manager Buck Showalter came out to ask for a video review, and five of the umpires went down a tunnel to examine the images. When they ran back onto the field about two minutes later, they didn't make any signal - meaning the original call stood. McLouth struck out on the



New York Yankees' Curtis Granderson hits a home run during the seventh inning of Game 5 of the American League division baseball series against the Baltimore Orioles Friday, Oct. 12, 2012, in New York.

Associated Press

next pitch, ending the inning.

Steven Ellis, a fan from the Broad Channel section of Queens, caught the ball with his Yankee cap in the second deck.

"It was foul all the way, never hit the pole," he said. Ada Cruz, sitting behind Ellis, added: "No way, no way. I watched it and he caught it."

A stadium usher who wouldn't give his name, however, said he saw the ball glance off the pole.

Back in 1996, the 12-year-old Maier reached over the wall above right fielder Tony Tarasco and deflected Derek Jeter's fly ball. Umpire Richie Garcia called it a home run, which tied the score 4-all in the eighth inning, and the Yankees went on to win in the 11th.

"Just watching at home, I promise," Maier, now a grown man, texted to The Associated Press after this play. □

Titans edge injury-hit Steelers 26-23

NASHVILLE, Tennessee

(AP) — The Tennessee Titans bought themselves a little breathing room with a much-needed victory on Thursday, beating Pittsburgh 26-23 and extending the Steelers' poor road record.

Rob Bironas kicked his fourth field goal, a 40-yard shot as time expired, to clinch a second win of the season for Tennessee, against four losses.

Titans quarterback Matt Hasselbeck had thrown a 5-yard touchdown pass to Kenny Britt with 4:19 left to tie it 23-23.

Pittsburgh (2-3) lost its third straight road game this

season despite quarterback Ben Roethlisberger throwing for 363 yards and becoming the Steelers' career passing leader.

Roethlisberger drove the Steelers into position to take the lead after the Titans tied it. Kicker Shaun Suisham, who already had connected from 29, 28 and 52 yards, had his 54-yard attempt fall short with 49 seconds left.

The Steelers were up 20-16 when Lawrence Timmons picked off a Hasselbeck pass, but they had to settle for Suisham's third field goal after moving the ball only 14 yards. That field goal put Pittsburgh up 23-16, but the NFL's fourth-ranked defense couldn't hold that lead.

Tennessee tailback Chris Johnson, who has been criticized for his struggles running the ball, kicked off the next drive with a 12-yard run. The Titans drove 80 yards before Hasselbeck found Britt to tie it.

After Pittsburgh's failed



Tennessee Titans kicker Rob Bironas (2) reacts with holder Brett Kern (6) after kicking the game-winning field goal in the fourth quarter of an NFL football game against the Pittsburgh Steelers on Thursday, Oct. 11, 2012, in Nashville, Tenn. The Titans won 26-23.

Associated Press

field goal attempt, Hasselbeck drove the hosts 33 yards, with the big play a 25-yard pass to tight end Jared Cook. The Titans gave the ball to Johnson to run down the clock, then sent out Bironas for the winning field goal.

Roethlisberger entered the game with 27,703 yards, 286 yards shy of Terry Bradshaw's franchise record. Roethlisberger was 24 of 40 and passed Bradshaw with a 17-yard pass to Heath Miller late in the third quar-

ter of his 119th game. Bradshaw played 168 games from 1970-83.

The Steelers, who played without safety Troy Polamalu and linebacker LaMarr Woodley, head home with a much longer injury report. Steelers running back Ike Redman, who caught four passes for 105 yards, injured his right ankle in the third quarter and never returned. Running back Rashard Mendenhall also went down with an Achilles tendon injury. □

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COME AND HAVE AN ENJOYABLE TIME

Struggling Packers face unbeaten Texans

NFL Preview

HOUSTON (AP) — The Texans are enjoying the kind of start in the NFL that Green Bay had last season. And the Packers seem to be running into the same kind of bad luck that's always plagued Houston. While the Texans (5-0) are building off last year's 10-6 record, the Packers (2-3) come into Sunday's game hardly resembling the team that won its first 13 games and finished 15-1 in 2011.

Aaron Rodgers is not close to the form that won him the league's MVP honor last year. He's been sacked 21 times, and he's quickly running out of playmakers around him. Leading rusher Cedric Benson is lost for at least eight weeks with a sprained left foot, Pro Bowl receiver Greg Jennings has missed two games with a groin injury, and tight end Jermichael Finley hurt his right shoulder in the 30-27 loss to Indianapolis last Sunday. Green Bay squandered a 21-3 halftime lead against the Colts, two weeks after losing 14-12 in Seattle when replacement officials made an incorrect call on a reception in the end zone on the final play. A loss in Houston would put the Packers at 2-4 for the first time since 2006, Brett Favre's second-to-last season with the team.

"Ultimately, you have to have a short memory in this game," Packers linebacker Clay Matthews said. "We let one get away from us last week, but we still have all the pieces of the puzzle and look forward to hopefully getting a victory this Sunday."

The Texans have been the league's most balanced

team, and their defense, even without star linebacker Brian Cushing (on injured reserve with a torn left knee ligament), could give Green Bay fits. J.J. Watt is a force not only as a pass rusher with 7½ sacks, but as a pass blocker. He's been compared to a basketball center swatting away balls. "You're not going to get a sack on every play or on most plays," Watt said. "So you find ways to do other things to help, and that's something I can do."

The Atlanta Falcons will also try to remain unbeaten when they host the Oakland Raiders. The Falcons have never started 6-0. Oakland comes off a bye, but was awful in a 37-6 loss at Denver before that. The Raiders have been outscored 72-19 on the road. This is a long trip, and Atlanta's plus-10 turnover margin leads the NFL.

"We have an offensive mentality in terms of what we're doing defensively," Falcons coach Mike Smith said. "We're attacking the football."

Atlanta is off next week, so a victory here would make for a sweet break.

The New York Giants travel to the San Francisco 49ers in a rematch of the NFC championship game in January that the Giants survived in overtime before beating New England in the Super Bowl. The 49ers



Green Bay Packers quarterback Aaron Rodgers (12) is sacked by Indianapolis Colts defensive end Cory Redding during the second half of an NFL football game in Indianapolis, Sunday, Oct. 7, 2012.
Associated Press

have upgraded their offense and are just as formidable on defense, while the Giants haven't found the overpowering pass rush that catapulted them to the NFL title.

This one could be won on the ground, where San Francisco ranks first in yards gained as Frank Gore and

Kendall Hunter each are averaging 5.4 yards an attempt, and backup quarterback Colin Kaepernick is contributing in the wildcat. New York's Ahmad Bradshaw rushed for 200 yards last Sunday to enliven the Giants' run game. But Cleveland's defense hardly resembles San Francisco's.

Also on Sunday, it's; Dallas at Baltimore; Denver at San Diego; New England at Seattle; Minnesota at Washington; Detroit at Philadelphia; Buffalo at Arizona; St. Louis at Miami; Cincinnati at Cleveland; Indianapolis at the New York Jets; and Kansas City at Tampa Bay. □

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Spinal steroid injections have history of trouble

ANDREW POLLACK
© 2012 New York Times

Perry D. Clark says that a steroid injected near his spine to relieve persistent back pain instead left him "way, way worse." Twelve years later, he still suffers from continuous stinging in his legs and feet and occasional bursts of excruciating pain.

"It's like somebody took a hot poker out of a fire and jammed it into my foot for two or three seconds," said Clark, a retired media professional from Petoskey, Mich.

The outbreak of fungal meningitis that has killed 14 people and sickened 156 more has focused attention on the risk of infection from spinal injections. But the same injections have also long been linked to other rare but devastating complications, including nerve damage, paralysis and strokes.

The Food and Drug Administration is already reviewing how to reduce the risk of "catastrophic neurological injuries" from the injections, said Dr. James P. Rathmell, chief of pain medicine at Massachusetts General Hospital, who is involved in the review. The risk of infections did not even factor into the review, although it will now, he said.

The meningitis outbreak

is raising new questions about the steroid spinal injections, which are given to millions of Americans. Use has mushroomed even as clinical trials have found only modest evidence that the injections help. Moreover, the steroids, while approved for uses like relieving inflammation in joints, have not been approved by the FDA for epidural injections, next to the spinal cord.

"Not only were these people killed, but there was no ethical reason to give this treatment," said Dr. William Landau, a professor of neurology at Washington University in St. Louis, referring to those who died of meningitis.

Many pain specialists dispute that conclusion. Doctors are allowed to, and often do, prescribe drugs for unapproved uses, they say, and steroids have been used to treat back pain for decades. They contend the injections can be less risky than narcotics or surgery.

Even Rathmell, who has been calling attention to the complications, said they occur in only about 1 in 10,000 cases.

"In the right individuals, they are a tremendous help," he said of the injections.

Kenny Alhadeff, the pro-

ducer of the Broadway musical "Memphis," says he is one of them.

Several years ago, he said, he had such severe back pain that "I could barely get into a car."

His first injection brought immediate relief. Now, after a few years of periodic injections, he is pain-free.



Dennis Capolongo, who has pain from a steroid injection near the spine, outside his home in Potomac, Md., Oct. 10, 2012. The recent meningitis outbreak is raising questions about steroid spinal injections, which, while approved for uses like relieving inflammation in joints, have not been approved by the Food and Drug Administration for injections next to the spinal cord.
(Brendan Hoffman/The New York Times)

But some defenders of the practice concede that injections are overused. They are most useful for people with herniated disks and pain radiating into the legs or arms. But a study pub-

lished in the journal *Spine* in 2007 found that fewer than half of the injections given were for these conditions.

"We are doing too many of these, and many of those don't meet the proper criteria," said Dr. Laxmaiah Manchikanti, who runs a pain clinic in Paducah, Ky., and is chairman of the

Manchikanti said his own review of Medicare records found an increase of nearly 160 percent in the number of injections from 2000 to 2010. The increased use is driven by the aging of the population, the desperation of patients and the desire of physicians to help — and there are financial incentives. Medicare and private insurers pay \$100 to several hundred dollars for an injection, and there are pain clinics that do almost nothing but injections.

Dr. Richard Deyo, a professor of family medicine at Oregon Health and Science University, said that despite the increase in injections and other aggressive treatments, surveys and Social Security disability records suggest that "people with back pain are reporting more functional limitations and work limitation, rather than less."

Evidence on the effectiveness varies by the condition being treated, the drug used and the injection technique.

A review last year by Washington state, which was considering whether to pay for such procedures, found that for one set of circumstances, there were seven clinical trials that showed the injections were helpful, another seven that found them no better or even worse than a placebo, and three with unclear results.

The state agency decided that the evidence was strong enough to justify paying for injections under certain circumstances.

The serious complications, while extremely rare, are more noticeable because of the explosive growth in the number of injections. In one anonymous survey, 287 pain physicians reported 78 serious complications, including 13 deaths, among their patients.

The injections are made into the epidural space just outside the spinal column. This is the same site used in numbing the pain of childbirth, although women in labor receive an infusion of a local anesthetic, not an injection of a steroid. □

3 drugs to be tested for preventing Alzheimer's

GINA KOLATA
© 2012 New York Times

Scientists have selected three different types of Alzheimer's drugs to be tested in the first large-scale international attempt to prevent the disease in people who are otherwise doomed to get it.

It is one of three studies with the same goal that will start early next year. This one involves 160 people from the United States, Britain and Australia with a variety of gene mutations that cause Alzheimer's with absolute certainty. Most of the test subjects will have no symptoms yet of the degenerative disease that ravages

the brain, destroying memory and thought. But they would be expected to start showing signs of problems with memory and thinking within five years unless the drugs work. The hope is that by intervening early, the disease might be headed off.

Another study starting next year involves an extended family in Colombia that shares the same mutation. Anyone who inherits that mutated gene get Alzheimer's disease. A third study will involve people in the U.S. age 70 and older who seem perfectly healthy and who do not have any known Alzheimer's muta-

tions but in whom, brain scans show, the disease is starting to manifest itself.

In recent years, as studies involving people who already have Alzheimer's have failed, researchers increasingly have called for studies in those who do not yet have the disease, arguing that the time to intervene is before the brain is irreversibly damaged. So the new study with people who are destined to get Alzheimer's unless a drug can stop it is a way to test that idea.

For the first two years of the study, researchers will follow the subjects with scans and memory tests, look-

ing for signs that the drugs are working. If one or more seems clearly effective, they will switch all the subjects to it and continue the study, looking for clinical benefits.

The drugs to be tested are gantenerumab, made by Roche, which binds to clumps of amyloid and allows it to be removed from the brain, and two drugs by Lilly. One, known as LY2886721, blocks an enzyme, beta-secretase, used to make amyloid. The other, solanezumab, attaches itself to amyloid that is floating free in the brain before it clumps into plaques, facilitating its removal. □

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FBI in DC creates intellectual property squad

By ERIC TUCKER
 Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — The FBI's Washington field office has created a squad dedicated to investigating intellectual property thefts, part of a more aggressive law enforcement approach on cybercrime, an official said Friday.

The squad started this month, with agents pulled from varied areas of expertise to investigate all corners of intellectual property and economic espionage ranging from harmful counterfeit medical products to multi-million-dollar trade secrets plundered by sophisticated hackers, said Trent

Teyema, assistant special agent in charge of the office's cyber branch.

"That pill that you order online: Is that what's supposed to be? Or is it sawdust or something else?" Teyema said. "We're looking at everything from health and safety to theft of trade secrets to intellectual property."

Teyema said Washington was a logical choice for an intellectual property squad because the Department of Justice is headquartered in the nation's capital and the National Intellectual Property Rights Coordination Center, a task force of different law enforcement agencies, is in the nearby Crystal City section of Arlington, Va.

The creation of the squad comes as federal authorities increasingly warn of the threat posed by hackers and cyberattacks, and as Americans confront the risk of a strike to the computer networks that control the electric grid and water supply. On Thursday, for instance, Defense Secretary Leon Panetta said that the department was invest-



In this Sept. 27, 2012, file photo, U.S. Defense Secretary Leon Panetta, speaks at a news conference with U.S. Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Gen. Martin Dempsey, not pictured, at the Pentagon, in Washington.

Associated Press

Samsung unveils smaller, cheaper Galaxy S III



This computer-generated image released by Samsung Electronics Co. on Friday, Oct. 12, 2012 in Seoul shows the company's Galaxy S III mini.

Associated Press

SEOUL, South Korea (AP) — Samsung Electronics Co. has unveiled a smaller and cheaper version of the Galaxy S III smartphone with the same screen size as the iPhone 5. Samsung says the Galaxy S III mini features a

screen measuring 4 inches diagonally, smaller than the Galaxy S III's 4.8 inch display but the same as Apple's iPhone 5, which was Apple's first upgrade of the iPhone screen size. Samsung said the mini will be launched in Europe later this month but kept mum on schedules for other countries. Samsung's German mobile shop lists the mini's price at 399 euros (\$516) versus 550 euros (\$711) for the cheapest S III. The mini is powered by the latest version of Android software but does not support faster fourth-generation wireless networks. □

ing more than \$3 billion a year in cybersecurity and that the cyberthreat from Iran had grown. The White House last week acknowledged an attempt to infiltrate its computer system, but officials said mitigation measures identified the attack and prevented it from spreading. Although motives for cyberattacks vary, a common thread is that virtually all companies these days have an online and international pres-

ence, making them vulnerable to a competitor seeking to lift a secret or cripple a website, Teyema said. "The international access to computers, and multi-national companies — and people wanting convenient access to their systems — that's what's opened up a lot of these vulnerabilities," he said. "It's still old vulnerabilities, old holes in operating systems, that people are getting in by." □

Reports: Smaller iPad to be revealed Oct. 23

The Associated Press

Apple Inc. is set to reveal a smaller, cheaper version of the iPad at an event on Oct. 23, according to several reports published Friday.

The reports from Bloomberg News, Reuters and the AllThingsD blog are based on unnamed sources with "familiarity with the plans."

Apple Inc. hasn't said anything about a smaller tablet, a concept company founder Steve Jobs derided two

years ago. But company watchers have assumed for months that an "iPad mini" will appear before the holiday season.

The screen is reportedly about half the size of the iPad's, which measures 9.7 inches diagonally.

Analysts speculate the starting price of the device could be about \$299. With the device, Apple could close an opening in the tablet market for rivals like Amazon.com Inc., whose

Kindle Fire is half the size of the iPad and starts at \$199. Google Inc. and Barnes and Noble Inc. also sell tablets in the same size and price range.

The event would be three days before Microsoft Corp. releases Windows 8, the new version of its operating system.

Microsoft will be releasing tablets with the software.

Apple shares rose \$1.37, to \$629.47 in afternoon trading. □

US stock market wraps worst week since June

JOSHUA FREED
AP Business Writer

U.S. Stocks closed out their worst week since June after investors looked over third-quarter corporate earnings reports and decided there wasn't much to get excited about. The big indexes were mixed on Friday. But they were all down more than 2 percent for the week. That was their worst weekly showing since the Standard & Poor's 500 index fell 3 percent for the week ending June 1.

On Friday, the S&P closed down 4.25 points at 1,428.59. The Dow Jones industrial average edged up 2.46 points to close at 13,328.85, giving up an earlier gain of 75. The Nasdaq composite lost 5.30 points to close at 3,044.11.

Investors haven't had much to like this week, with mixed results from U.S. companies including Alcoa, Safeway and Yum Brands. Investors have seemed unsure how to evaluate the news. This week stocks have posted some of their biggest daily losses in the late morning or

early afternoon.

"It's been a relative downer week in the market this week, and people are going into the weekend not wanting to hang out there too much," said Bill Stone,

vestors were anticipating a strong economic recovery. Now it's put-up or shut-up time for corporate profits.

"What people have to decide is, is America going into recession with the rest of the



Trader F. Hill Creekmore works on the floor of the New York Stock Exchange. U.S. Stocks closed out their worst week since June after investors looked over third-quarter corporate earnings reports and decided there wasn't much to get excited about.

(AP Photo/Richard Drew)

chief investment strategist for PNC Wealth Management.

Looking beyond this week, stocks have had a strong run. The S&P 500 is up 11.8 percent since June 1. The run-up suggested that in-

world, or are we going to start accelerating and lead the way out of recession for the rest of the world," said Randy Warren, chief investment officer for Warren Financial Service.

Financial stocks were the

focus on Friday. The nation's largest bank, JPMorgan Chase, blew away Wall Street's expectations for quarterly profits. Wells Fargo just edged out profit forecasts but its revenue fell short.

Wells Fargo fell 93 cents, or 2.6 percent, to \$34.25, and JPMorgan fell 48 cents to \$41.62. Bank of America fell 22 cents to \$9.12. US Bancorp lost 67 cents to \$33.72. Financial and utility stocks had the biggest declines among the 10 industries in the S&P 500.

Trucking and logistics company J.B. Hunt Transport Services Inc. rose \$3.58, or 6.5 percent, to \$58.37 after its third-quarter profit rose almost 14 percent on strong growth in handling containers that move by ship, rail, or truck.

Advanced Micro Devices Inc. dropped 46 cents, or 14 percent, to \$2.74, after the chipmaker said its third-quarter revenue will fall about 10 percent from the second quarter because of weak demand for its products. □

Street Briefs Telefonica sells call center unit to Bain Capital

MADRID (AP) — Spanish telecommunications company Telefonica has agreed to sell its call center business Atento to private equity group Bain Capital for €1 billion (\$1.3 billion) to lower debt.

Telefonica SA is trying to reduce its debts worth €58 billion (\$75.2 billion) through the sale of non-essential businesses. In a statement Friday, Telefonica says the deal includes a "conditional deferred payment of €110 million (\$142.7 million)" and a grant of vendor financing of the same amount. It also says Telefonica will remain Atento's service provider for nine years. Telefonica expects to obtain regulatory approval and complete the deal by the end of December. Telefonica says Atento is the biggest call center operation in Latin America and the second largest in the world, with 152,000 employees in over 15 countries. □

US wholesale prices jump 1.1% in September

MARTIN CRUTSINGER
AP Economics Writer
WASHINGTON (AP) —

A second month of sharp gains in gasoline costs drove U.S. wholesale prices higher in September. But outside of the surge in energy, prices were well contained.

Wholesale prices rose 1.1 percent in September following a 1.7 percent gain in August which had been the largest one-month increase in more than three years, the Labor Department said Friday.

In both months, overall prices were pushed higher by gasoline, which rose 9.8 percent in September following an even larger 13.6 percent gain in August.

Core prices, which exclude food and energy, were unchanged in September, the best showing since they held steady in October 2011. In August, core prices rose 0.2 percent.

Food prices, which had

jumped 0.9 percent in August, showed a smaller 0.2 percent rise in September.

Wholesale inflation has been stable over the 12

is up 2.3 percent over the 12-month period. The government's producer price index measures cost pressures before they reach consum-

gives the Federal Reserve more room to keep interest rates low in an effort to spur economic growth. If prices were to begin rising rapidly, the central bank might be forced to raise rates in response. Paul Ashworth, chief U.S. economist at Capital Economics, said the modest gains in wholesale prices should translate into further moderation in consumer inflation, keeping it close to the Fed's 2 percent inflation target. Ashworth said that would allow the central bank to keep focusing its policy efforts on reducing the unemployment rate. The 0.2 percent rise in food prices in September was the smallest change since prices dropped for two months in April and May. In June, July and August, prices showed larger gains, reflecting in part this year's severe drought in the Midwest. □



Karl Hock, left, and Duane Varner unload onions for the food distribution at the Food Bank of Eastern Michigan, in Midland, Mich. A second month of sharp gains in gasoline costs drove wholesale prices higher in September. But outside of the surge in energy, prices were well contained. Wholesale prices rose 1.1 percent in September following 1.7 percent gain in August which had been the largest one-month gain in more than three years, the Labor Department said Friday, Oct. 12, 2012.

(AP Photo/The Bay City Times, Yfat Yossifor)

months that ended in September. In that time, overall prices have increased just 2.1 percent. Core inflation

ers. Low inflation means consumers have more money to spend, which helps the economy. It also

Ecolab buying Champion Tech in \$2.2B deal

ST. PAUL, Minnesota (AP) —

Ecolab, the cleaning, food safety and pest-control services company, is buying the specialty chemical company Champion Technologies in a cash-and-stock deal valued at about \$2.2 billion. Ecolab Chairman and CEO Douglas Baker Jr. said in a statement Friday that the transaction will help expand its geographic reach and enhance its technology offerings. "Champion's technology and product strengths in the U.S. and Canada are very complementary to our innovative technology and services in the off-shore and international energy markets," he said. St. Paul, Minn.-based Ecolab Inc. will pay approximately \$1.7 billion in cash and issue about 8 million shares of its stock as part of the buyout. □



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JPMorgan turns in record profit, higher revenue

CHRISTINA REXRODE

AP Business Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — JPMorgan Chase, the country's biggest bank, reported a record quarterly profit Friday, helped by a surge in mortgage refinancing. CEO Jamie Dimon said he believed the housing market "has turned a corner." The bank made \$5.3 billion from July through September, up 36 percent from the same period a year ago. It worked out to \$1.40 per share, blowing away the \$1.21 predicted by analysts polled by FactSet, a provider of financial data. Revenue rose 6 percent to \$25.9 billion, beating expectations of \$24.4 billion. Earnings were also helped because the bank set aside less money for bad loans — \$1.8 billion, down 26 percent from a year ago. Revenue from mortgage loans shot up 29 percent. About three-quarters of that was from people refinancing,

rather than buying new homes. Low interest rates and government help encouraged homeowners to refinance.

A Federal Reserve survey earlier this week found that a stronger housing market helped economic growth in almost every part of the country. Home sales are up, prices are rising more consistently in most places, and builders are more confident. Dimon noted that the bank was still seeing a high level of souring mortgage loans, and said he expects high default-related expenses "for a while longer." And he noted homeowners are still struggling under mortgages they can't afford, saying the bank was working to modify those loans.

The bank gave few details on the surprise \$6 billion trading loss that dominated its previous earnings report. It did mention that a credit portfolio moved to

the investment bank from the chief investment office, which was responsible for the bad trade, "experienced a modest loss."

not just a lawsuit filed last week by the New York attorney general over mortgage-backed securities sold by Bear Stearns. JPM-

in the future.

"Obviously we're in a litigious society," he said on a call with reporters. "We have a lot of mortgage suits coming and others. ... Hopefully it will come down over time but we can't promise you that."

The number of employees was up about 1 percent over the year. But it fell about 1 percent compared with the previous quarter. The bank shed about 3,300 jobs to 259,550. Dimon said he believed the number of workers would continue to come down, partly because the bank will need fewer people to handle problem mortgages but also because the company would continue to look for efficiencies.

He declined to give specifics on how bonus season might play out early next year. "The company's doing quite well, and we want to pay our people fairly and properly as we always have," he said.

Dimon also declined to answer a question about what the board of directors might decide about his own pay. Some had speculated it would be cut because of the trading scandal. "I would never tell you what our board of directors does, OK?" Dimon said. He was paid \$23 million last year, mostly in stock awards. JPMorgan's investment banking unit earned more in fees for underwriting stock offerings and debt offerings, which could signal that wary companies and investors are more willing to get back into the market. Debit card revenue fell, which the bank attributed to new rules crimping the fees that banks charge stores whenever customers pay via debit card. □



JPMorgan Chase offices tower over London. JPMorgan Chase, the country's biggest bank by assets, reported a record quarterly profit Friday, Oct. 12, 2012. The bank said it made \$5.3 billion in earnings for common shareholders, a widely used measurement, from July through September, up 36 percent from the same period a year ago.

(AP Photo/dapd, Timur Emek)

The bank set aside an extra \$684 million for legal expenses. Chief financial officer Doug Braunstein said the reserves were related to "a variety of issues," and

organ bought Bear Stearns as it veered toward collapse in 2008. Dimon said he couldn't predict how much the bank would have to spend

Earnings at Wells Fargo jump 22%

BEN PROTESS

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Wells Fargo reported \$4.9 billion of profit in the third quarter, a 22 percent jump on the back of a booming mortgage business.

The San Francisco-based bank continues to churn out record profits, with 11 straight quarters of net income gains. The results of 88 cents a share narrowly beat the estimates of analysts polled by Thomson Reuters, who forecast earnings of 87 cents a share.

The bank increased revenue as well, sidestepping a common sore spot that has plagued most of the nation's biggest banks. Wells



Photo shows cookies featuring the Wells Fargo logo. Wells Fargo reported \$4.9 billion of profit in the third quarter, a 22 percent jump on the back of a booming mortgage business.

(Photo)

Fargo recorded \$21.2 billion in revenue, surpassing \$19.6 billion a year earlier. The bank's lending division helped drive growth, as consumers refinanced their mortgages amid record low interest rates. Wells Fargo, the nation's largest mortgage lender, also benefited from its relatively modest exposure to the volatile investment banking business. "We saw continued strength in our mortgage and deposit businesses," the bank's chief executive, John G. Stumpf, said in a statement.

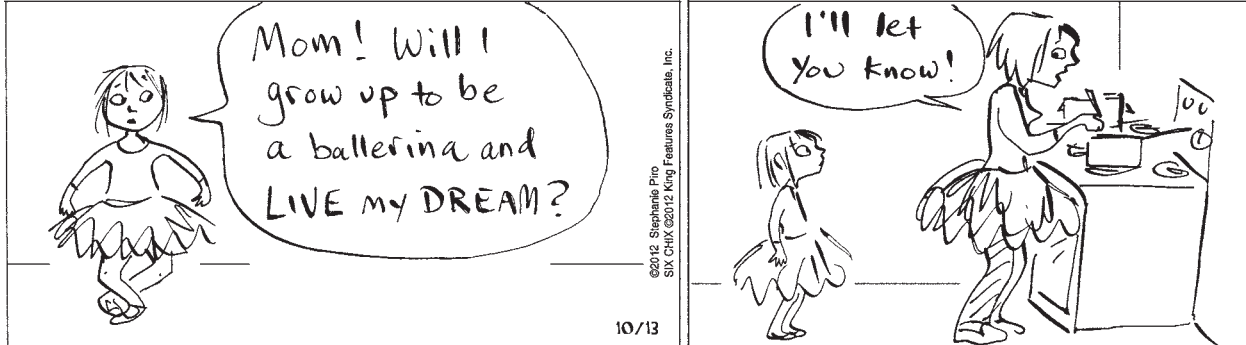
Wells Fargo and JPMorgan Chase kicked off bank earnings season Friday. The

nation's other big banks, including Goldman Sachs and Bank of America, will report their results next week. The Wells Fargo story line — that a deep lending effort breeds success — is rooted in broad federal stimulus efforts that have propped up the mortgage industry. A Treasury initiative is spurring refinancing activity. And the Federal Reserve has introduced a long-term plan to buy large batches of mortgage-backed bonds, which should help keep rates low. Wells Fargo, more than five years after the mortgage crisis, has seized the opportunity. □

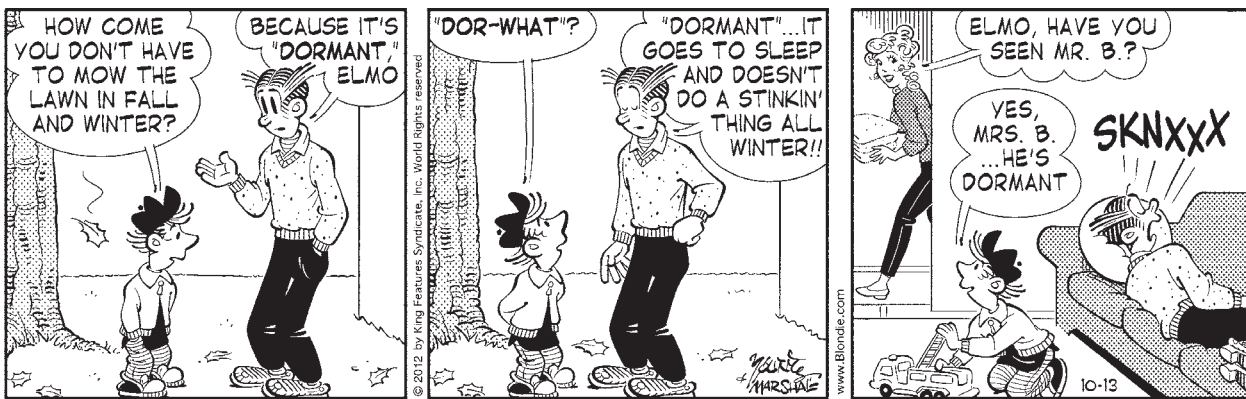
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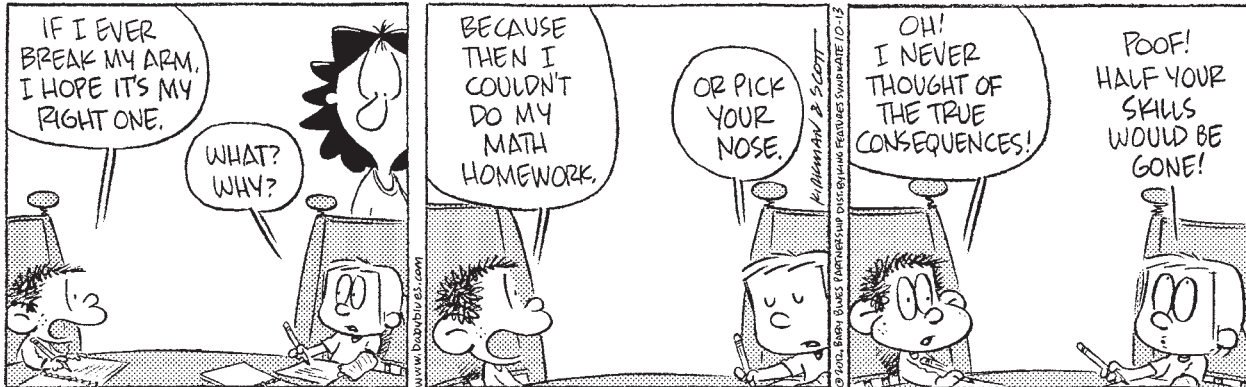
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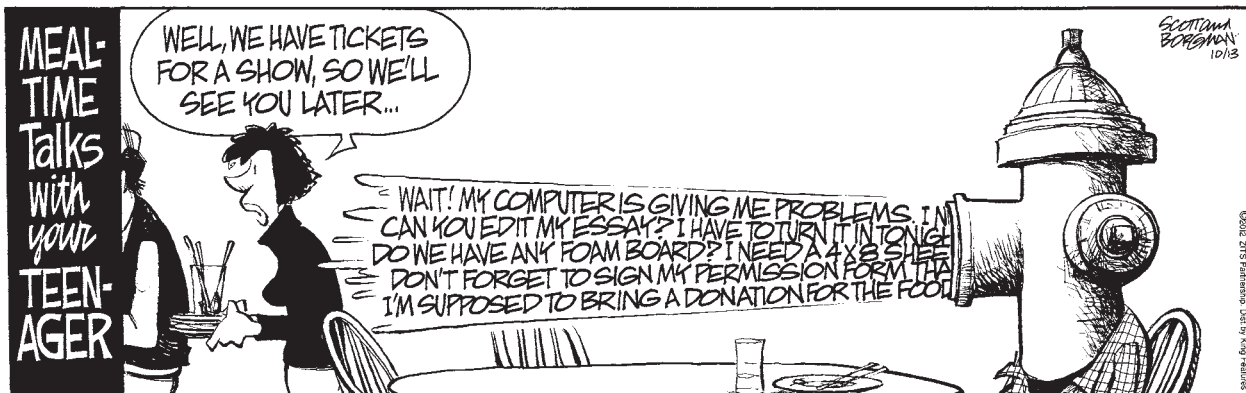
Mother Goose & Grimm



Baby Blues



Zits



Conceptis Sudoku

		3	4					
		5		1		9		
	8						7	2
			9		2			7
	4						5	
1			7		8			
4	2						8	
		8		3		6		
				5	7			

Difficulty Level ★★★★★

10/13

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

2	4	7	3	5	8	1	9	6
5	1	6	2	4	9	3	7	8
9	8	3	6	1	7	4	5	2
6	9	4	7	3	5	8	2	1
7	5	2	1	8	6	9	4	3
8	3	1	9	2	4	7	6	5
4	2	5	8	9	1	6	3	7
1	7	9	5	6	3	2	8	4
3	6	8	4	7	2	5	1	9

ACROSS

- 1 Unsmiling; gloomy
- 5 Look for expectantly
- 10 Move back and forth
- 14 Toe the __; obey
- 15 Black-and-white bear
- 16 Magazine title
- 17 "Say it __ so!"
- 18 Fall flower
- 19 Common metal
- 20 Plead with
- 22 Speech
- 24 2/5 and 3/5
- 25 Advertising circular
- 26 Epee or saber
- 29 Faux __; social blunder
- 30 Sandy shore
- 34 Fumbler's word
- 35 Laying bird
- 36 In an impolite way
- 37 " __ Maria"
- 38 Cool dessert
- 40 Eminem's style
- 41 TV frog
- 43 Find a total
- 44 Gaming cubes
- 45 Slow crawler
- 46 Expert
- 47 Peers through a crack
- 48 Rent long-term
- 50 Sheep's cry
- 51 Shorten
- 54 Forgives
- 58 Money, slangily
- 59 Island feasts
- 61 Correct a text
- 62 Spanish painter
- 63 Keats or Wordsworth
- 64 Zero
- 65 Region
- 66 Sicker
- 67 Emcee Carey

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14				15						16		
17				18						19		
20				21			22		23			
24						25						
26	27	28				29			30	31	32	33
34				35				36				
37				38				39			40	
41			42				43			44		
45						46			47			
48				49				50				
51	52	53						54			55	56
57												
58						59		60			61	
62						63					64	
65						66					67	

Created by Jacqueline E. Mathews

10/13/12

Friday's Puzzle Solved

DYE	KAPPA	NICE
IOTA	ONION	ALAN
GLOB	AGENT	SKID
KNOWLEDGE	SANS	
LIAR	LEA	
REMIT	PRODUCES	
ABASH	CROPS	HAT
ROTH	POISE	VISA
ENT	ARMEY	REPEL
RYEBREAD	TUSSLE	
RED	LAST	
SHOE	ATROPHIED	
TUNA	TROVE	GLIB
ALEC	OUTER	ELSE
BASH	REEDS	ACE

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10/13/12

DOWN

- 1 Insincerely smooth
- 2 Go skyward

- 3 Hotels
- 4 Shooting stars
- 5 Quickly
- 6 Take a bath
- 7 Colony insect
- 8 High principles
- 9 Late
- 10 Mixed
- 11 Thin metal cable
- 12 Biblical prophet
- 13 Strong urges
- 21 Finale
- 23 First performance
- 25 Hoopla
- 26 __ up; absorbs
- 27 Sewn on a loom
- 28 Musical drama
- 29 __ person; apiece
- 31 Eagle's nest
- 32 Clickety-__
- 33 Publicizes extravagantly
- 35 Sombrero, e.g.
- 36 Get __ of; toss
- 38 Stacked

- 39 "Much __ About Nothing"
- 42 Army of civilians
- 44 Street with only one entrance
- 46 Phony
- 47 Golf term
- 49 Shining
- 50 Sew lightly
- 51 Actor Alan __
- 52 Wild hog
- 53 Acting part
- 54 Kitty
- 55 Smell
- 56 Largest digit
- 57 Worry; fret
- 60 Broadcast

Program for green fuels draws counterfeiters

MATTHEW L. WALD

© 2012 New York Times

WASHINGTON – A Maryland man is awaiting sentencing for what may seem an unusual crime: selling bogus renewable energy credits and using the \$9.3 million in illicit proceeds to buy jewelry and a fleet of luxury cars.

In a similar case in Texas, a man has been indicted for selling a whopping \$42 million in counterfeit credits. He bought real estate, a Bentley automobile and a Gulfstream jet.

As a result of such cases, the Environmental Protection Agency is scrambling to re-tool a program that relies on such credits to encourage the use of cleaner diesel fuel in engines. The refining industry has meanwhile seized on the schemes to argue that government fuel mandates don't work and the rules should be relaxed or scrapped.

Under the EPA program, initiated in 2009, a producer who makes diesel fuel from vegetable oils and animal fats receives renewable energy credits for every gallon manufactured. The producer can then resell the credits to refiners, who pay millions of dollars for them under a government mandate to support a minimum level of production. The credits can also be resold, a commonplace activity in the arena of corporate compliance with federal environmental rules. The problem is that at least three companies were selling bogus credits without producing any biodiesel at all, the EPA has said in announcements over the last year. Agency officials declined to comment for this article.

Now no one is certain how many of the credits are real. So far, more than \$100 million in fraudulent credits have been identified, the refining industry estimates. That amounts to roughly 5 percent of the credits issued since 2009, but the percentage could rise as current investigations of other producers progress. The credits are easier to

counterfeit than hundred-dollar bills. Known as "renewable identification numbers," or RINs, the 38-digit credits have no physical form and are trad-

three companies began, Bob Greco, the American Petroleum Institute's group director for downstream and industry operations, pointed out at a recent

another demand from the refiners: to drop an EPA requirement that companies shop for valid replacement credits if they are found to be holding bogus ones. The oil companies argue that if they have to replace all the fake ones, a shortage of RINs could develop early next year.

OceanConnect, a company in White Plains, N.Y., that specialized in buying RINs from small producers and packaging them for bulk sales, has been sued by oil companies that bought credits that proved fraudulent.

Eric A. Rubury, the company's president, said that even if the EPA drops the fines, the replacement burden will amount to one.

"They're saying, OK, we won't charge you a couple of hundred thousand dollars of fines, but you still have to go out and buy 6 or 8 million RINs," he said. □



Brett Millar puts biodiesel fuel into his car at a gas station in San Diego, March 16, 2012. A federal program intended to promote biodiesel through renewable energy credits has attracted counterfeiters and is hurting the market for credits from smaller biodiesel producers.

(Sandy Huffaker/The New York Times)

ed electronically. Exxon Mobil, Marathon and Sunoco are among the many big companies that have bought bogus credits.

Last April, the EPA announced settlements with oil companies that had submitted invalid RINs sold by two of the three fraudulent producers. The penalties, amounting to 30 cents per gallon of biofuel, ranged from a few thousand dollars to a maximum of \$350,000. The agency also required such companies to buy legitimate credits to replace them.

But the industry still argues that the penalties are unfair, saying that the unscrupulous vendors were implicitly approved by the EPA when it listed them as producers on its website. The agency continued to list them there even after a federal investigation of the

news conference.

The EPA is now working on a rule detailing what a refiner must do to verify that the renewable energy credits it is buying are legitimate. The agency has promised a draft version by the end of the year, but the industry wants the agency to move faster, noting that a public comment period is needed before a rule is made final. Oil companies, which are long accustomed to arm-wrestling regulatory agencies in Washington, want the EPA to guarantee that the refiners will not be penalized if RIN credits they buy turn out to be false. The EPA has signaled that it is prepared to do that, provided that refiners have done due diligence on the credits under whatever rule the agency adopts.

But it is unclear whether the agency will bow to

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Singer Jennifer Hudson performs onstage at "We Will Always Love You: A Grammy Salute to Whitney Houston," at Nokia Theatre on Thursday, Oct. 11, 2012, in Los Angeles. The one-hour concert tribute will air on CBS on Nov. 16.

Associated Press

Hudson, Spears, LL Cool J honor Whitney Houston

SANDY COHEN

AP Entertainment Writer

LOS ANGELES (AP) —

Jennifer Hudson embodied the look of one of her idols, Whitney Houston, during a tribute to the late singer put on by Grammy organizers. Rocking a pompadour and glittery jacket reminiscent of Houston's stage costumes from the 1980s, Hudson belted out a medley of Houston's hits Thursday at the Nokia Theatre for "We Will Always Love You: A Grammy Salute to Whitney Houston," which will air as a TV special next month.

"She has been a huge part of my life musically," Hudson said. "She's just been like this outline, this blueprint for myself."

Britney Spears, LL Cool J, Halle Berry, Taraji P. Henson, Usher, CeCe Winans and Yolanda Adams also participated in the musical tribute.

Spears said she's always been "a huge fan" of Houston's. "I think she's amazing," Spears said. "And I think that her voice is better than God. I just, I love her." Houston died at 48 the night before the Grammy Awards in February from

accidental drowning complicated by drug use and heart disease. LL Cool J honored her at the awards ceremony in February but said Thursday that the singer's musical contributions merit more.

"The time that we spent remembering Whitney at the Grammys wasn't really enough for her career," he said. "Even though it was wonderful, and I got to say the prayer, and I got to address her death, her career was larger than just a few segments. You need a whole show to celebrate a career like Whitney Houston's."

The tribute is set to air as an hour-long special on CBS Nov. 13.

T.D. Jakes, a minister and producer of Houston's final film, "Sparkle," said Houston's early death can serve as a sad cautionary tale.

"Our message and our heart's cry to young people is to really govern the choices that they make, and that those choices have consequences, long term consequences," he said. "It is not enough to be talented. We must also be wise." □



This 2012 photo released by The Daily shows comedian Tig Notaro. After starting her comedy routine with "Good evening! Hello. I have cancer. How are you?"

Associated Press

Comic opens set for ages: 'Hello. I have cancer.'

JAKE COYLE

AP Entertainment Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — A frightfully nervous Tig Notaro stood just offstage at the Los Angeles club Largo while Ed Helms introduced her.

The audience of 300 and Notaro's fellow performers that August night had no idea what she was about to do. They had no idea she was going to address the trauma and pain that had been the last few months of her life, or relay the bad news she had received just days earlier. They had no idea she was about to perform the bravest set they had ever seen.

"Good evening! Hello. I have cancer. How are you?"

With those words — said cavalierly in the normal stand-up greeting manner — Notaro launched into a 30-minute performance that immediately became legendary in comedy circles and that's now available as an unlikely live album via a \$5 digital release by comedian Louis C.K. In just a week, it's sold more than 60,000 copies.

The 41-year-old Notaro, a stand-up veteran of 15 years, was in the midst of

a string of misfortunes: She had been hospitalized and debilitated by clostridium difficile, her mother had died in a tragic accident, she went through a breakup, and, days earlier, she had learned she had breast cancer.

"It's weird because with humor, the equation is tragedy plus time equal comedy," Notaro told a stunned crowd. "I am just at tragedy right now."

But Notaro's performance wasn't a weepy lament. It was matter-of-fact storytelling, filled with heartbreakingly funny observations. It was taking comedy straight into darkness and grief, in the rawest catharsis.

"It felt amazing," Notaro said in a recent interview, days after moving from Los Angeles to New York. "When I was on stage I felt, 'Wow, I think something really special is happening.'" The audience — at turns confused, amazed, gasping, saddened, hysterical — cheered her on, some through tears.

Among those there that night was Louis C.K., who insisted Notaro release the largely unrehearsed show as a comedy album. He put it out on his website,

calling it "one of the greatest standup performances I ever saw."

"Here was this small woman standing alone against death and simply reporting where her mind had been and what had happened and employing her gorgeously acute stand-up voice to her own death," C.K. wrote on his website. "She proved that everything is funny.

And has to be." It took Notaro more than a month to convince herself to release it (mostly because it was so raw and off-the-cuff, like an open-mic performance), but she was eventually swayed by thinking it could help someone. (Part of the proceeds will go to charity.) She dubbed it the typical-seeming title "Live," but it's meant to be pronounced as in "to live."

Notaro was performing that night partly to work out material she had written on her ordeal, having been urged by "This American Life" host Ira Glass, who would later feature her story on the radio program. Just 90 minutes before going on stage, she had thought she would begin by sitting down and laying everything out for the audience. □

Barbra Streisand is a proud Brooklynite at concert

MESFIN FEKADU
AP Music Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Barbra Streisand was full of Brooklyn pride as she belted well-known tunes with passion during a concert at the newly built Barclays Center. Thursday night's three-hour show was Streisand's return to her Brooklyn hometown, where she's also performing Saturday.

The 70-year-old told the crowd of 18,000 the last time she performed solo in Brooklyn was "on somebody's stoop on Pulaski Street" as an 8-year-old. She played with the crowd, often telling jokes and taking in the many screams of "I love you Barbra!"

She entered the stage in a shimmering black ensemble,



Singer Barbra Streisand kicks off her concerts at the Barclays Center in the Brooklyn borough of New York, on Thursday Oct. 11, 2012.

Associated Press

holding her hands close to the microphone as she performed songs like "People," "Evergreen" and "The Way We Were."

Streisand sang a duet with her son, Jason Gould, asking the 45-year-old: "Do you need anything, like, a sweater?" □

Bieber publicist: Stolen laptop tweet not a hoax



This Sept. 30, 2012 photo released by the Las Vegas News Bureau shows singer Justin Bieber performing in concert at the MGM Grand Garden Arena in Las Vegas, Nev.

Associated Press

MANUEL VALDES
Associated Press

SEATTLE (AP) — Was pop star Justin Bieber's laptop actually stolen during a show in Washington state? Bieber tweeted to his near-

ly 29 million followers he was victimized during the show Tuesday night at the Tacoma Dome. But questions were raised Friday about the authenticity of Bieber's claim.

Another Twitter alluded to having the laptop. The account linked to Bieber's new music video, which starts with text saying personal footage was stolen and uploaded "illegally."

That prompted suspicions the supposed theft was a hoax meant to hype the new music video, which was released Friday.

But Bieber's publicist Melissa Victor says it's not a hoax and the laptop was indeed stolen.

Tacoma police spokesman Mark Fulghum says a report was filed, but he doesn't foresee spending much time investigating. □

Nobel prize for EU is case of winning ugly



European Commission President Jose Manuel Barroso addresses the media after the 2012 Nobel Peace Prize was given to the EU, at the European Commission headquarters in Brussels, Friday, Oct. 12, 2012.

Associated Press

RAF CASERT

Associated Press

BRUSSELS (AP) — Just what does the EU really stand for? With a multitude of nations at the same table, the European Union has always been a big, bickering family of former allies and enemies that has somehow stuck together through good times and bad for the past 62 years.

Even if some don't really have their heart in it, they still show up whenever a gathering is called.

A slew of jerry-rigged

EU institutions built over decades of brinkmanship is the glue that has bonded leaders as diverse as Britain's Margaret Thatcher to Germany's Helmut Kohl to France's Francois Mitterrand.

SUMMITS GALORE

What stands out is all 27 leaders rubbing shoulders during the many EU summit meetings. Often they look like endless debating sessions that highlight deeper political rifts between aging world powers like Britain, France and Germany.

They often end in the wee hours with bleary-eyed leaders explaining some compromise deal that will placate the disparate nations at least until the next summit a month later.

The European financial crisis has given such meetings in Brussels much more urgency in the past few years. Still, the markets have more often punished EU nations for their lack of decisive action at summits rather than reward them for coming up with crafty solutions.

During the war with Iraq almost a decade ago, the meetings often laid bare the glaring differences between British Prime Minister Tony Blair, a staunch U.S. ally, and French President Jacques Chirac and German Chancellor Gerhard Schroeder on the other hand.

As fundamental as such differences were, the EU always survived, since on many key issues of sovereignty, member states could still go their own way. It is this flexibility and amazing measure of compromise that has given

the EU such a central role in holding together Europe's disparate nations. In that sense, it has been a driver of sustained peace.

Detractors relentlessly rip the EU's ability to come up with a fudge, papering over fundamental differences while the EU seems inexorably headed towards even more unity by stealth.

A UNITED EUROPE

As the dust of World War II settled, it gave way to the dream of a united Europe, where Germany and Italy would no longer be able to fight Britain and France, but all be condemned to cooperation. The success of turning that vision into reality earned the EU its Nobel Peace Prize on Friday.

Faced with a patchwork of languages, religions and cultures, it was clear from 1950 that economic unity was the best way to unite former enemies. France and Germany welded steel and coal industries together and industry cooperation drove ever closer cooperation as six founding members became a dozen, and

then some. A united farm policy drove out the fear of hunger, the best guarantor of peace.

It was not all peace and prosperity though. Soon sovereignty clashed head on with unity, and once Britain joined, the engine that drove the union suddenly found a nation reaching for the hand brake.

And what better issue to fight over than finances? Thatcher, Britain's former leader, insisted her nation was contributing far too much and famously said "we are simply asking to have our own money back." That is not how the EU works, and the principle of 'rich' helping 'poor' led to the union expanding south and east.

It all looked so good that a core of EU nations even agreed on a common currency — the euro.

Now though, with 17 nations sharing the euro, money is again stretching the EU to the brink, with insults going back and forth between rich and poor nations over who is to blame for the financial crisis. □

Democrats At The Deep End



GAIL COLLINS

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It's a tough time to be a Democrat.

When Democrats run into each other in elevators, they exchange glances and sigh. Or make little whimpering sounds.

They read post-Denver bloggers like Andrew Sullivan ("Obama has instantly plummeted into near-oblivion.") and find themselves spending their evenings watching "House Hunters International." The real estate market in Cuzco, they note, is sort of intriguing.

Democrats walk around repeating the comeback lines they would have given if they had been debating Mitt Romney in Colorado. ("Maybe you need a new accountant? Yeah, and a new calculator, and a new ...") They wander around the neighborhood, buttonholing perfect strangers, demanding the name of one – one! – tax loophole that Mitt Romney has actually said he'd close.

Democrats are going bipolar. Half the time they are grabbing at random bits of hopeful information. (An Esquire/Yahoo poll shows most Americans would rather go on a road trip with Obama!) Half the time they are in total despair. Nothing makes them happy. Show them that cute picture of the lioness befriending the orphan baby antelope that's gone viral, and they will point out that the only reason the antelope is an orphan is because the lioness ate its mother. Before falling asleep, they think about how smart Joe Biden is when it comes to foreign affairs. Everything reminds them of the election. They hear Diane Sawyer talking about people who've gotten meningitis from steroid injections and they do not think about alternate therapy for back pain. They start yelling at the TV: "Yeah! Let's not have overreaching federal regulation of those compounding companies! Let the states do it. The states are great at this stuff!"

Democrats spend all their waking hours thinking about the swing states. If Wisconsin starts looking wobbly, their day is ruined. They leap out of bed in the morning and race to the computer to see where the trend lines are going in Colorado.

Calm down and leave Colorado alone! Also, stop talking about

getting into a bus and going door to door in Ohio. Research shows that undecided voters are most likely to be swayed by their friends and neighbors. East Coast Democrats, no one in Zanesville is going to believe you are their neighbor.

Democrats miss Seamus.

Yes, those were the days. When the very mention of "Mitt Romney" would instantly lead to a discussion of the dangers of transporting an Irish setter to Canada on the roof of a station wagon.

"Has Seamus peaked too early?" a worried Democrat asked me in Texas a while back. At the time, I thought that anybody who is a Democrat in Texas had so many things to worry about, it was a miracle he could even remember the dog's name. But now it's clear that he was totally right. Seamus was so June.

All Democrats have now is Big Bird. Plus worrying about whether they're talking too much about Big Bird.

Plus Joe Biden, who has a very nice smile.

You have to calm down, Democrats. Romney hasn't turned into some new supercandidate. You were just underestimating him during September. He's the same old Mitt. This week in Des Moines, Iowa, he told an editorial board that he doesn't have any plans for pushing anti-abortion bills if he's elected. ("There's no legislation with regards to abortion that I'm familiar with that would become part of my agenda.") Meanwhile, back at headquarters, his spokeswoman was assuring National Review that he "would, of course, support legislation aimed at providing greater protections for life."

Things haven't really gone off the deep end for the Obama campaign. They've gone back to normal. You knew that the Obama-is-going-to-win-by-10-points euphoria wasn't going to last. When did anybody ever win a presidential race by 10 points? Don't tell me about Ronald Reagan. When Ronald Reagan was president, gas was 90 cents a gallon and I was writing on a Kaypro.

Maybe Democrats should try to be more like the Republicans, and reduce stress by blaming all bad news on incorrect information, cooked up by cabals of political partisans.

Although you can't be overly sensitive about it. Jack Welch, who has been famous for his tender spirit ever since he ran General Electric, was outraged when he ran into flak for claiming that the "Chicago guys" had cooked the unemployment statistics.

"Imagine a country," Welch wrote indignantly in The Wall Street Journal, "where challenging the ruling authorities – questioning, say, a piece of data released by central headquarters – would result in mobs of administration sympathizers claiming you should feel 'embarrassed' and labeling you a fool, or worse."

Perhaps we should all work on feeling sorry for Jack Welch. □



Triumph Of The Wrong?



PAUL KRUGMAN

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In these closing weeks of the campaign, each side wants you to believe that it has the right ideas to fix a still-ailing economy. So here's what you need to know: If you look at the track record, the Obama administration has been wrong about some things, mainly because it was too optimistic about the prospects for a quick recovery. But Republicans have been wrong about everything. About that misplaced optimism: In a now-notorious January 2009 forecast, economists working for the incoming administration predicted that by now most of the effects of the 2008 financial crisis would be behind us, and the unemployment rate would be below 6 percent. Obviously, that didn't happen.

Why did the administration get it wrong? It wasn't exaggerated faith in the power of its stimulus plan; the report predicted a fairly rapid recovery even without stimulus. Instead, President Barack Obama's people failed to appreciate something that is now common wisdom among economic analysts: severe financial crises inflict sustained economic damage, and it takes a long time to recover.

This same observation, of course, offers a partial excuse for the economy's lingering weakness. And the question we should ask

given this unpleasant reality is what policies would offer the best prospects for healing the damage. Obama's camp argues for an active government role; his last major economic proposal, the American Jobs Act, would have tried to accelerate recovery by sustaining public spending and putting money in the hands of people likely to use it. Republicans, on the other hand, insist that the path to prosperity involves sharp cuts in government spending.

And Republicans are dead wrong. The latest devastating demonstration of that wrongness comes from the International Monetary Fund, which has just released its World Economic Outlook, a report combining short-term prediction with insightful economic analysis. This report is a grim and disturbing document, telling us that the world economy is doing significantly worse than expected, with rising risks of global recession. But the report isn't just downbeat; it contains a careful analysis of the reasons things are going so badly. And what this analysis concludes is that a disproportionate share of the bad news is coming from countries pursuing the kind of austerity policies Republicans want to impose on America.

OK, it doesn't say that in so many words. What the report actually says is: "Activity over the past few years has disappointed more in economies with more aggressive fiscal consolidation plans." But that amounts to the same thing.

For leading Republicans have very much tied themselves to the view that slashing spending in a depressed economy – "fiscal consolidation," in IMF-speak – is good, not bad, for job creation. Soon after the midterm elections, the new Republican majority in the House of Representatives issued a manifesto on economic policy – titled, "Spend less, owe less, grow the

economy" – that called for deep spending cuts right away and pooh-poohed the whole notion that fiscal consolidation (yes, it used the same term) might deepen the economy's slump. "Non-Keynesian effects," the manifesto declared, would make everything all right.

Well, that turns out not to be remotely true. What the monetary fund shows is that the countries pursuing the biggest spending cuts are also the countries that have experienced the deepest economic slumps. Indeed, the evidence suggests that in brushing aside the standard view that spending cuts hurt the economy in the short run, the GOP got it exactly wrong. Recent spending cuts appear to have done even more harm than most analysts – including those at the IMF itself – expected.

Which brings us to the question of what form economic policies will take after the election.

If Obama wins, he'll presumably go back to pushing for modest stimulus, aiming to convert the gradual recovery that seems to be under way into a more rapid return to full employment.

Republicans, however, are committed to an economic doctrine that has proved false, indeed disastrous, in other countries. Nor are they likely to change their views in the light of experience. After all, facts haven't gotten in the way of Republican orthodoxy on any other aspect of economic policy. The party remains opposed to effective financial regulation despite the catastrophe of 2008; it remains obsessed with the dangers of inflation despite years of false alarms. So it's not likely to give up its politically convenient views about job creation.

And here's the thing: if Mitt Romney wins the election, the GOP will surely consider its economic ideas vindicated. □

Transition to the new fashion season now!

SAMANTHA CRITCHELL

AP Fashion Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — The most influential runways have had their say for next spring, but there's no need to wait for stores to stock up on cut-outs, lightweight leather, sleeveless jackets and shorts suits. There's a way to capture "fashion next" right now: with your lipstick, hair and handbag. The themes in many of the collections were strength and toughness, and more than a hint of sexiness, which can be achieved in ways adaptable to many ages and lifestyles. Tweaking your makeup routine is more about how you wear the products than a change in products themselves, says Linda Wells, editor in chief of Allure. This season the overall look was relatable to the everywoman — save the patent-leather eye candy at Fendi. It included red matte lips, red lacquered nails and a low ponytail. "You can adopt new trends right away, but you're not going to look 'out of season,'" she says. "It's not like you're starting to wear crisp white dresses in November



The Holmes & Yang Spring 2013 collection is modeled during Fashion Week in New York. Tweaking your makeup routine is something you probably could do today because it's changing how you wear the products more than a change in products themselves, says Linda Wells, editor in chief of Allure. (AP Photo/Holmes & Yang, Dan Ashby)

or sandals in the winter." Transition is underrated, adds makeup artist Bobbi Brown, who has how-to tips in her new book "Pretty Powerful." Take the time

The BCBG MAX AZRIA Spring 2013 collection being modeled during Fashion Week in New York. Tweaking your makeup routine is something you probably could do today because it's changing how you wear the products more than a change in products themselves, says Linda Wells, editor in chief of Allure. (AP Photo/Richard Drew)



to move from one trend to another with an evolution in your look instead of a jarring change. "I've always held the philosophy that trends shouldn't be stuff that you have for a few months and get rid of." Who can argue with flawless skin, full, red lips and slightly tousled hair? "I like that it all seems a little undone but not fussy," says hairstylist Oscar Blandi, who saw flashes of Brigitte Bardot on the catwalk. "It's a little raw and very beautiful." The clothes exuded so much confidence that Blandi found balance with more natural-looking hair and makeup. Shoes and purses also are "early adopters" of trends, largely because affordable versions of what's on the runway are widely available. Expect extreme gladiator styles and hardware at a store near you. "All the clothes with leath-

er harnesses are hard for real women to afford and to wear, so the bondage movement hit the feet, and the shoes were sexier than ever," fashion commentator Mary Alice Stephenson says. There also was a lot of brightly colored leather, which is a continuation of one of this season's most popular looks. Don't bother with black or brown bags. But there was a learning curve with the clutch bag, a hot item for a while, says Dana Rotkiewicz, vice president of sales and marketing for Kooba. "We saw a lot of oversized and document clutches on the runway, and, really, bigger clutches. We've learned not everything fits in the cute little ones." Other tips to bring spring runway style to your fall closet: —Consider clutches that also have a removable longer-length shoulder strap. □



A model displays an outfit by Polish designer Mariusz Brzezinski during a Fashion Week in Kiev, Ukraine, Thursday, Oct. 11, 2012. (AP Photo/Efrem Lukatsky)